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# PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

## NATIONAL CONVENTION

OF THE

# Veterans of the Mexican War

HELD IN

THE CITY OF WASHINGTON,

JANUARY 15, 16 AND 17, 1874.

CONTAINING

List of Delegates, Memorial to Congress for a Pension to Survivors, and  
an account of the Organization of the National Association of  
Veterans of the Mexican War, with List of Officers  
For the Ensuing Year, &c , &c , &c.

SECOND EDITION.

COMPILED BY SECRETARY A. M. KENADAY.

WASHINGTON:  
JOHN H. CUNNINGHAM, PRINTER.  
1874.



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# INITIAL PROCEEDINGS.

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On the 20th of February, 1873, in response to a call for a meeting of Mexican Veterans at the Dickson House, in Washington, D. C., to consider the propriety of joining as a body in the inaugural ceremonies of President GRANT, on the ensuing 4th of March, about twenty persons assembled; and after agreeing to the proposition for which they had met, Mr. A. M. KENADAY, resident agent in Washington of the San Francisco Associated Veterans of the Mexican War, called attention of those present to the fact that the Scott Legion of Pittsburgh, Pa., had forwarded a petition to Congress for a pension to the survivors of the Mexican War, which had been presented by General NEGLEY, representative from that district. Mr. KENADAY moved that a committee on organization be appointed to prepare a plan of action to coöperate in the Pittsburg project, which was adopted, and the mover of the resolution was made chairman of the committee. On the 15th of April an address was made by the chairman to the resident survivors of the Mexican War, appealing to their patriotic impulses to unite in an association, and combine their efforts to promote the welfare of their old comrades, which resulted in the organization of the "Associated Veterans of 1846" of this city, by electing, on the 1st of May, the following officers: President, General J. W. DENVER; Vice-Presidents, Major F. T. LALLY, General D. H. COOPER; Corresponding Secretary, A. M. KENADAY; Recording Secretary, J. R. MCNEIR; Treasurer, Colonel P. H. ALLABACH; Marshal, Major H. A. WHITE, and the following gentlemen as Trustees: Hon. J. J. MARTIN, General ALBERT PIKE and Captain S. N. HOYT. At the next meeting, on the 15th of May, Secretary KENADAY offered the following resolution, which passed unanimously:

*Resolved.* That an invitation is hereby extended by this association to the veterans of the Mexican war throughout the country, now organized or hereafter to be enrolled in associations, to send two or more delegates, in person or by proxy, to a national convention to be held in Washington City on January 15, 1874, to prepare a joint memorial to Congress for a pension to the survivors of the Mexican war, at the same rate allowed by the act of February 14, 1871, granting pensions to the soldiers and sailors of the war of 1812; also, to adopt measures looking to a National Brotherhood of the survivors, and a general assemblage on the occasion of the centennial anniversary of the nation's birthday, at Philadelphia, July 4, 1876.

The Corresponding Secretary was instructed to communicate the subject to the then existing organizations, and take all proper measures to spread the information widely. Through the liberality of the public press, the merits of the proposition were discussed far and wide, and almost immediately organizations began to spring into being under the call. In the South and West the movement was very popular, and State reunions were held in many of the States to elect delegates. The correspondence received by the Washington Association was published in the proceedings of their meetings, and slips were printed regularly, containing those proceedings and sent by mail to all parts of the Union. It became evident to all that the Convention would be a success, and on November 15th the association appointed a committee, consisting of General J. W. Denver, chairman; General Albert Pike, Hon. J. J. Martin, J. L. McCarty, and Alexander M. Kenaday; Corresponding Secretary, to make all arrangements necessary. Colonel P. B. Allabach, Major F. T. Lally, Captain S. N. Hoyt, Judge H. R. Crosby, Colonel J. C. Kretschmar, and many other members of the association lending valuable assistance. On the 15th of January, 1874, in nine brief months after issue of the call of the organizing committee, the National Convention assembled, and following this brief introduction will be found the proceedings thereof:

that none of these differences will be brought into this Convention, and that no question of polities or other disturbing matter will be alluded to, but that our deliberations may be confined entirely to the events and consequences pertaining to the time when all were actuated by the single motive, as one man, to uphold the honor and glory of our common country and the actors in those great events.

I will now read the call for the Convention, which was issued on the 15th of May last, by our association here, and has been so heartily responded to. It is as follows :

[Gen. Denver then read the call which is embodied in the chapter of "Initial Proceedings," on 2d page.]

Permit me to call your special attention to the fact that the Soldiers' Home, near this city, was bought and paid for out of money obtained from the City of Mexico, and which, therefore, was one of the results of your valor. Among those who helped to achieve those results are many who are in indigent circumstances, and we think that that Home ought to be open to them, if they wish to go there. As it now stands, the doors of the Home are closed against all those who were not disabled in the line of duty, who were mustered out of the service at the close of the war, no matter how great may be their present necessities. This ought not to be. There are but few of them left, and the country ought to take care of them. Their services entitle them to consideration, and it ought not to be withheld from them.

At the conclusion of Gen. Denver's remarks, on motion of Col. Wm. Linn Tidball, of New York, a Committee on Credentials was selected from the various States and Territories represented, and from the Army and Navy, as follows :

Michigan, J. P. Howlett; Iowa, Capt. I. W. Griffith; New Hampshire, Col. T. P. Pierce; Massachusetts, Capt. Wm. Hurd; Louisiana, Gov. P. O. Hebert; Kentucky, Major J. F. Huber; Missouri, Judge Jonas J. Clark; Kansas, E. N. O. Clough; North Carolina, Samuel S. Pyatt; Georgia, Col. H. J. Sargent; West Virginia, Col. G. A. Porterfield; Virginia, Col. B. O. Harman; U. S. Navy, Major A. J. Dallas; Tennessee, R. J. Hays; Pennsylvania, Gen. Edwin R. Biles; U. S. Army, General Thomas G. Pitcher; Minnesota, Col. F. Peteler; California, James E. Nuttman; Maryland, Lewis F. Beeler; Illinois, M. L. Payne; Alabama, Andrew J. Huggins; Oregon and Washington Territories, Gen. James Tilton; Ohio, Dr. J. M. Todd; South Carolina, Captain W. B. Stanley; Mississippi, Gen. Wm. J. Smith; New York, Gen. Addison Farnsworth; Wisconsin, A. A. Meredith; Indiana, Hon. M. D. Manson; Arkansas, Willard Ayers; Texas, Gen. Albert Pike; Nevada, J. F. Ray; Washington, D. C., J. I. McCarty.

A. M. Kenaday was directed by a vote of the Convention to act also as Secretary of the Committee.

The Convention took a recess until 2½ p. m.

On reassembling of the Convention, Gen. Addison Farnsworth, of New York, Chairman, reported through Secretary Kenaday, the following delegates as having up to that time filed credentials, to wit :

#### LIST OF DELEGATES BY STATES.

**ALABAMA.**—A. J. Huggins, Scottsboro; J. J. Martin, Tuskegee, (Post Office, Washington, D. C.)

**ARKANSAS.**—Willard Ayers, Little Rock; General Albert Pike, Washington, D. C.; General James F. Fagan, Little Rock.

**CALIFORNIA.**—J. E. Nuttman, (Post Office, Newark, N. J.) Hon. S. O. Houghton, A. M. Kenaday, (Washington, D. C.) Colonel J. C. Hays, Captain Thomas J. Knipe, Colonel J. D. Stevenson, General G. W. Bowie, Captain Brant Sequine, Major Joseph Daniels, Major Richard P. Hammond, William Piper, Captain William Blanding, A. J. Shrader, Captain D. Scannell, H. E. Van Guestifield, of San Francisco : (the first three named only being present.)

**GEORGIA.**—Colonel David S. Johnston, Madison; Colonel E. L. Thomas, Covington; H. J. Sargent, Newnan; Colonel George S. Fisher, Augusta; Colonel C. W. Styles, Albany.

ILLINOIS.—Captain M. L. Payne, Pontiac; Colonel L. Guinnip.

INDIANA.—Colonel John Osborn, Greencastle; Colonel Thomas Morton, Middle-town, Henry Co.; Captain F. K. Tykle, Hon. H. S. Lane, Crawfordsville; Hon. M. D. Manson, do.; W. W. Bradley.

IOWA.—General L. W. Griffith, DesMoines; M. M. Trumbull, Dubuque; Michael Donohue, B. W. Wilson, W. L. Church, S. R. Edgington, (the first only present.)

KANSAS.—E. N. O. Clough.

KENTUCKY.—General W. T. Ward, Louisville; E. C. Berry, Owensboro; J. P. Williams, J. J. Halsey, Harrodsburg; W. W. Bradley, Bowling Green; Major J. F. Huber, Louisville; Colonel C. D. Pennebaker, Washington, D. C.

LOUISIANA.—General P. O. Hebert, New Orleans; General J. R. West, U. S. S.; General G. Mason Graham, Alexandria. The following were accredited, but failed to arrive: General Harry T. Hays, Colonel J. B. Walton, General George Baldy, Captain J. B. Vandergrift, General A. G. Blanchard, S. D. Allis, Esq., of New Orleans.

MARYLAND.—Colonel J. H. Rudlach, Colonel W. L. Schley, General Oden Bowie, Marshal John T. Gray, John R. Omor, Lewis F. Beeler, T. J. Goodrich, Cornelius Brown, Captain William Harcourt, Captain William Howard, Dr. H. Webster, of Baltimore.

MASSACHUSETTS.—Captain William Hurd, H. A. McGlenen, Esq., Colonel Isaac H. Wright.

MICHIGAN.—A. M. Keenaday, (J. P. Howlett, of Niles, proxy;) J. N. A. L. Simonds, Tecumseh; Charles P. Kimball, Adrian; E. R. Merrifield, Lansing.

MINNESOTA.—W. A. Gorman and Colonel F. Peteler, St. Paul; A. R. French, Washington, D. C.

MISSISSIPPI.—General D. H. Cooper, John G. Hope, Beverly Matthews, Columbus.

MISSOURI.—Judge Jonas J. Clark, Chillicothe; General J. W. Denver, Washington, D. C.; General James Shields, Carrollton; Colonel A. W. Doniphian, Richmond, Ray Co. (The two first named only present.)

NEVADA.—J. F. Ray, Elko; Colonel W. W. McCoy, Eureka; Charles Getzler, Virginia City. (The last two absent.)

NEW HAMPSHIRE.—Colonel George Bowers, Colonel Thomas P. Pierce, Nashua.

NEW JERSEY.—Charles Bowers, Newark.

NEW YORK.—Colonel Wm. Linn Tidball, Lieutenant R. P. Noah, General Francis E. Pinto, General Addison Farnsworth, Francis D. Clark, Esq., General Thomas W. Sweeny, General Charles K. Graham, Captain Henry Roseoe, Captain Wm. Wade, Wm. Colligan, Esq., F. W. Seagrast, Lieutenant Denman, General A. W. Adams. The following accredited failed to appear: General H. G. Gibson, General J. H. H. Ward, Captain J. C. Marriott, Vice-Admiral S. C. Rowan, Major W. L. Gary.

NORTH CAROLINA.—Colonel Edward Cantwell, Wilmington; O. R. Smith, Raleigh; Colonel John A. Fagg, Asheville; S. S. Pyatt.

OHIO.—Dr. J. M. Todd, Bridgeport, Belmont Co.; Wm. B. Howard (proxy for Hon. W. L. Southard.)

OREGON and WASHINGTON TERRITORY.—General James Tilton, Major Granville O. Haller, General R. H. Milroy, H. R. Crosby, S. P. Moses.

PENNSYLVANIA.—General E. R. Biles, Chauncey F. Sargent, George Moore, J. J. OsVandal, Wm. J. Mackey, Robert Klotz, of Scott Legion, Philadelphia; Lieutenant Abijah Ferguson, Wm. Kennedy, C. B. Mowry, John W. Hague, Ed. O'Brien, Maurice Wallace, W. H. Barker, Captain Alex. Hay, James T. Sample, G. W. Gibbs, W. H. Hope, of Pittsburgh Scott Legion; Major R. Klotz, Mauchunk; General George A. H. Blake, U. S. A.; Colonel Alex. Montgomery, U. S. A.; John Solomon, East Mauch Chunk; R. McDonald, Milli Co.; Colonel F. B. Kaercher, Pottsville; Z. E. Barnes, Connellsburg; Richard J. Crozier, John A. Blair, Evansburg; Wm. Williams and John M. Clark, Blair Co.; J. T. Sample, Sewickly, Alleghany Co.; J. Q. A. Young, Elizabeth, Alleghany Co.; James H. Ross, York; James Shaw, Connellsburg; John Kilpatrick, Connellsburg; R. McMichael, Louis H. Wunder and John Priestly, Reading.

SOUTH CAROLINA.—K. J. Billings, Lancaster C. H.; Judge T. J. Mackey, Chester; Wm. B. Stanley and James D. Blanding, Columbia; and the following

not present: R. G. M. Dunovant, J. B. Kershaw, C. W. Styles, Albany; Samuel McGowan, Elias Earle, C. S. Kickland, J. H. Williams.

**TENNESSEE.**—R. J. Hays, Jackson; General W. J. Smith, General N. S. Reneau, Batesville; George McPherson, Jonesboro; General Gideon J. Pillow, Memphis (failed to arrive); Joseph Cooper, Knoxville, do.

**TEXAS**—Andrew J. Dorn, Hon. S. B. Maxey, of Paris, Lamar Co.; General Albert Pike, Elias M. Greene.

**VIRGINIA.**—Captain Robert G. Scott, Major Patrick Hart, Robert Reid, of Richmond; M. W. Strother, J. B. Laurens, Hanover; John Poe, Richmond; Wm. B. Taliaferro, Gloucester; R. W. Brown, B. D. Harman, Staunton; Thomas B. Toombs, John Boucher, J. H. Whittlesey; and the following not present: General M. D. Corse, Alexandria; Colonel F. H. Archer, Petersburg; Major James C. Taylor, Montgomery; Major L. M. Shumaker, Pottsylvania; Colonel J. Richard Llewellyn, Norfolk; Major John H. Cooke, Norfolk; Captain Robert Pegram, Norfolk; Rev. P. A. Peterson, Norfolk; Colonel A. P. Bennet, Richmond; Colonel P. D. Sutton, Major B. F. Wingfield, C. H. Farrell, Lieut. W. H. Pleasants, C. G. Morrill, J. B. Hogsden, R. W. Brown, S. C. Curry, L. C. Leonard, C. R. Jones, Samuel Crawford, Dr. A. R. Shands, M. M. Anderson,

**WEST VIRGINIA.**—Colonel G. A. Porterfield, John Avis, Charlestown; Captain N. N. Hoffman, Morgantown; Captain J. C. Baggs, Wheeling; General D. N. Couch, (Norwalk, Connecticut.)

**WISCONSIN.**—Dr. Otis Hoyt, Hudson; C. R. Johnson, Black River Falls.

**COLORADO TERRITORY.**—S. N. Hoyt, S. M. Logan, Denver.

**U. S. ARMY.**—General W. T. Sherman, Washington, D. C.; General Irwin McDowell, New York City; General Benjamin Alvord, Paymaster General; General Thomas G. Pitcher, General Charles Thomas, Colonel Alex. Montgomery, Major T. J. Eckerson.

**U. S. NAVY.**—Dr. Wm. M. Wood, Surgeon General, (retired;) A. J. Dallas, J. W. Davis.

**DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.**—Colonel P. H. Allabach, Edward Atkins, Willard Ayers, General Benjamin Alvord, General A. W. Adams, S. S. G. Barbour, C. A. Blanchard, C. W. Beeker, Thomas Bridges, John G. Brayman, John Branham, James Bremner, General D. H. Cooper, James Chapple, Major J. B. Collins, H. R. Crosby, General E. C. Carrington, Joshua Clark, John Carter, Thomas Croggin, Thomas Dwyer, General J. W. Denver, Captain W. H. Digges, J. W. Davis, Dr. George M. Dove, Isaiah Dean, Major A. J. Dallas, Addison Dent, Alfred Fairail, James Foy, A. R. French, John Galloway, C. W. Gordon, Albert Gruber, S. M. Gouverneur, Theodore Gregg, S. N. Hoyt, Stephen Hoyt, H. B. Hensley, A. J. Hurdie, R. J. Hays, N. N. Hoffman, Henry Ingle, S. W. Johnson, Thomas Johnson, A. M. Kenaday, J. C. Kretschmar, Major F. T. Lally, Chris. Long, John H. Locke, John T. Lynch, George McPherson, S. P. Moses, Judge S. Milligan, Joseph Mollere, Colonel Alex. Montgomery, U. S. A., Major-General Irwin McDowell, U. S. A., Captain Samuel Montgomery, Hon. J. J. Martin, J. I. McCarty, J. B. Merritt, John McDonough, R. F. Martin, M. D. Montis, S. V. Niles, General Albert Pike, J. R. Pierce, Captain E. A. Paul, General T. G. Pitcher, U. S. A., John Roach, B. M. Reese, George Roberts, General B. S. Roberts, U. S. A., H. J. Sargent, Theodore Sniffin, General H. H. Sibley, General W. T. Sherman, U. S. A., Stark B. Taylor, John Thompson, John H. Thompson, John M. Thornton, Major H. A. White, Marcellus Wilson, Lieut. B. R. West, John Wood, G. F. White.

The report was adopted.

On motion of General Pike, it was decided by vote that any State in which no association has yet been organized may be allowed a representative in the Convention by a soldier of the Mexican War who served with the troops of such State.

A collection of flowers, in form of a sword, was laid upon the table of the President, accompanied by the following note, to wit:

WASHINGTON, D. C., January 15, 1874.

General J. W. DENVER—*Dear Sir*: Please accept for yourself and brother officers of the Convention this laurel sword *in memoriam* of the brave comrades of '46 and '7, whose hands can never more grasp yours in welcome greetings. With memories that awaken the proudest, saddest, truest sympathy for this reunion, I am,

Most respectfully, MRS. E. A. KIMBALL.

The President stated that Mrs. Kimball was the widow of a gallant officer who served in Mexico—Captain Kimball, of the 9th Infantry.

The thanks of the Convention were ordered to be tendered to Mrs. Kimball and the letter spread upon the minutes of proceedings.

The Secretary sent the following response to Mrs. Kimball's letter :

NATIONAL CONVENTION VETERANS OF 1846.  
WILLARD HALL, WASHINGTON, D. C., January 15, 1874.

*Mrs. E. A. Kimball, Washington, D. C.:*

MY DEAR MADAM: The beautiful floral tribute to the memory of our departed comrades in Mexico, presented by you to the Convention of the survivors of the army and navy of that war, assembled now, after many years of separation and estrangement, was received with appropriate manifestations of satisfaction by those who had the pleasure to behold it, and I have been instructed to convey to you the heartfelt thanks of this body for your tender and thoughtful regard for the memory of those whose friendly grasp and cheerful greeting is sadly missed at this reunion, among whom was one dear to you, Captain E. A. Kimball, of the 9th Infantry.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. M. KENADAY,  
*Secretary of the National Convention.*

Mrs. Kimball also presented a file of the *Star*, published by Peoples & Barnard, in the City of Mexico, during the American occupation.

Colonel Wm. L. Tidball, of New York, moved that a committee of one from each State and Territory be appointed to nominate permanent president, vice-president and secretaries.

General W. T. Ward, of Kentucky, said that there was no necessity for wasting time in committee deliberations. He desired to present the name of a man enjoying a national reputation, who, in his judgment, was the most proper person to be the president of this Convention. He meant General W. T. Sherman. [Applause.]

Colonel Schley, of Maryland, doubted the propriety of nominating General Sherman, as there would be probably business transacted here which would necessarily require Congressional action, and it would hardly do to elect him as president—a position that would embarrass the General.

A discussion ensued on the question, and finally Hon. M. D. Manson, of Indiana, after a high encomium on the General of the army, begged that General Ward would withdraw General Sherman's name and substitute that of General James W. Denver.

General Ward, in answer, said that General Sherman was a member of the association as an individual, and he believed that as an individual he could accept it.

The feeling evinced was decidedly to make General Sherman president, but the question of propriety intervened. It was finally decided to appoint the committee on permanent organization.

The following is the Committee on Organization;

Washington, D. C., Major F. T. Lally; Michigan, J. P. Howlett; Iowa, Captain I. W. Griffith; New Hampshire, Colonel George Bowers; Massachusetts, Captain William Hurd; Louisiana, Governor Paul Hebert; Kentucky, J. J. Hal-

sey; Missouri, J. J. Clark; Kansas, E. N. O. Clough; North Carolina, Colonel Edward Cantwell; Georgia, Colonel D. S. Johnson; West Virginia, Captain J. D. Baggs; Navy, Dr. William M. Wood, Tennessee, Colonel W. J. Smith; Pennsylvania, William H. Barker; Army, General T. G. Pitcher; Minnesota, Colonel Francis Peteler; California, Hon. S. O. Houghton; Maryland, Colonel Joseph H. Ruddach; Illinois, Captain M. L. Payne; Alabama, Judge J. J. Martin; Oregon and Washington Territory, General James Tilton; Ohio, J. M. Todd; South Carolina, Judge T. J. Mackey; Mississippi, General D. H. Cooper; New York, General T. W. Sweeny; Wisconsin, A. A. Meredith; Indiana, Colonel John Osborn; Arkansas, Willard Ayres; Texas, Colonel Elias M. Greene; Nevada, J. F. Ray; New Jersey, Charles Bowers; Virginia, Captain R. G. Scott.

A motion was made that when the Convention adjourn it be until to-morrow at 10 o'clock, when it reassembles to hear the report of the committee on permanent organization, and then in a body move to the Metropolitan M. E. Church, where the public literary exercises prepared for the occasion will be held.

A letter from the venerable General Robert Patterson was read, as follows:

1200 LOCUST STREET, PHILADELPHIA, January 13, 1874.

DEAR SIR: I had made every arrangement to leave here to-morrow for Washington, for the purpose of meeting and uniting once more with the Veterans of the Mexican War, but I regret to say it is impracticable for me to do so; it is to me a sore disappointment. Please convey kind remembrance to any of my old comrades who may inquire for me.

I remain, dear sir, very truly yours,

R. PATTERSON.

A. M. KENADAY,

*Corresponding, Secretary, &c., &c., &c.*

Also the following letter from Major General Gideon J. Pillow, dated Memphis, Tennessee, January 10th, 1874, and addressed to General Denver, President of the Convention, to wit:

MEMPHIS, TENN., January 10, 1874.

General Denver, President of the Association of Veterans of 1846:

MY DEAR GENERAL: I deeply regret that I cannot be present at the meeting of Veterans, on the 15th instant.

No time will obliterate from my memory the recollections of the brilliant achievements of the Army of Mexico.

It was my pleasure to meet a large number of my old companions of the war at our recent meeting in this city. It was the first we have had in this part of the West. They did me the honor to appoint me a delegate to your Convention, but my professional engagements, by which I live, put it out of my power to attend.

I need not say how happy I should be to exchange greetings with my old comrades in arms, from the North and the South, and to let them see that neither time nor the bitterness engendered by our late civil war can estrange those who, actuated by a sense of duty and love of country, marched side by side through the many perils of the brilliant battles fought in that war.

It was my fortune during that war to command troops from nearly every State in the Union. We knew no North, no South. We were patriots and brothers, each emulous of being foremost in the discharge of duty, and ready to sacrifice our lives for the good of the country and in defending its honor.

Of the major-generals of the regular army who fought in that war, the writer is the only survivor. He was then in the prime of life and in the vigor of manhood. He is now well stricken in years, and has passed through many vicissitudes and trying ordeals; but he has never ceased to love his country, and to feel a just pride in its greatness and power, and he hopes that it will continue to be the "nursery of liberty and the home of the oppressed" for a thousand years to come.

Begging you to kindly present me to my old comrades, in *brotherly love*, I am, General, your obedient servant,

GID. J. PILLOW.

Enthusiastic applause followed the reading of both the letters.

On motion of Colonel Tidball, it was ordered that when the Convention reas-

semble the several delegations shall report members of a committee to draft a memorial address to Congress, and also to report a committee to organize a national Association.

The President read a letter from Mr. H. Clay Ford, business manager of Ford's Opera House, inclosing sixty tickets to be used for the performance of Madame Janauschek. They were accepted and the thanks of the Convention returned.

Rev. Dr. Tiffany invited those who did not care to visit the theatre to attend the concert of the "Hutchinson family" at the Metropolitan Church. The invitation was thankfully accepted.

On motion, the Convention adjourned to 10 a. m. to-morrow, January 16th.

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## SECOND DAY—JANUARY 16, 1871.

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The Convention was called to order at 10 a. m., by the temporary President, General J. W. Denver.

Secretary Kenaday commenced reading the proceedings of yesterday, when

Colonel W. L. Schley, of Maryland, moved to dispense with the further reading. Carried.

Major F. T. Lally, Chairman of Committee on Permanent Organization, reported the following

### PERMANENT OFFICERS.

*President.*—General J. W. DENVER.

### *Vice-Presidents.*

Colonel J. H. Ruddach, Maryland,	Major F. T. Lally, District of Columbia,
J. P. Howlett, Michigan,	Captain I. W. Griffith, Iowa.
Colonel T. P. Pierce, New Hampshire,	Colonel L. H. Wright, Massachusetts,
General W. T. Ward, Kentucky.	General T. G. Pitcher, U. S. A.,
General Willis A. Gorman, Minnesota,	J. E. Nuttman, California,
Captain L. M. Payne, Illinois,	Hon. J. J. Martin, Alabama,
General Jas. Tilton, Oregon and W. T.,	Dr. J. M. Todd, Ohio.
Captain William B. Stanley, S. C.,	General James Shields, Missouri,
Colonel E. N. O. Clough, Kansas,	Colonel John Jones, Georgia,
Colonel Edward Cantwell, N. C.,	N. N. Hoffman, West Virginia.
General Wm. B. Taliaferro, Virginia,	Surg. Gen. Wm. M. Wood, U. S. Navy.
Governor Paul O. Hebert, Louisiana,	(retired.)
General Gideon J. Pillow, Tennessee,	Edward O'Brien, Pennsylvania,
Charles Bowers, New Jersey,	General E. M. Greene, Texas.
Major A. A. Meredith, Wisconsin,	General M. D. Manson, Indiana,
General Albert Pike, Arkansas,	John F. Bay, Nevada.
General C. K. Graham, of New York.	

### *Secretaries.*

A. M. Kenaday, (Cal.,) Wash., D. C.,	Colonel O. R. Smith, Raleigh, N. C.,
Major J. F. Huber, Louisville, Ky.,	Colonel Wm. Linn Tidball, New York,
	H. A. McGlenen, Boston, Mass.

Colonel W. L. Schley, of Maryland, who had been nominated by the Committee, declined, and the Convention excused him from the service.

The report of the Committee was adopted.

Colonel E. Cantwell, of North Carolina, moved that the Convention, upon its adjournment to-day, proceed in a body, under direction of the Presiding Officer,

to the Executive Mansion, for the purpose of presenting their respects and congratulations to our illustrious comrade and friend, the President of the United States.

On motion of Hon. S. O. Houghton, of California, a committee of three was appointed to wait on the President and inform him of the proposed visit.

The Chair appointed as said committee, Hon. S. O. Houghton, of California; Colonel W. L. Schley, of Maryland; and J. D. Blanding, of South Carolina.

Colonel D. S. Johnston, of Georgia, moved that a committee of five be appointed, with Colonel William L. Tidball, of New York, as Chairman, to draft a memorial to Congress for suitable legislation in behalf of the Veterans of the Mexican War.

The motion was adopted, and the President appointed Colonel William Lynn Tidball, of New York; Colonel D. S. Johnston, of Georgia; General E. R. Biles, Pennsylvania; Gov. Paul O. Hebert, Louisiana; and Hon. M. D. Manson, of Indiana, said committee.

On motion of Judge Mackey, a committee was appointed to prepare a constitution and by-laws for the proposed National Association of Mexican War Veterans, as follows: Judge T. J. Mackey, South Carolina; W. J. Mackey, Pennsylvania; General Francis E. Pinto, New York; General W. T. Ward, Kentucky; Dr. J. M. Todd, Ohio.

Hon. S. O. Houghton (the committee having returned from the White House,) reported that the President of the United States would be pleased to receive the proposed visit of the Convention at 11 o'clock to-morrow.

The Convention then, in accordance with the programme adopted by the Committee of Arrangements, formed in line of march and proceeded to the Metropolitan Methodist Episcopal Church, to attend the literary exercises prepared for the occasion. Preceded by the Marine Band, and headed by the officers of the Convention, the procession marched *via* Fourteenth street, Pennsylvania avenue and Four-and-a-half street to the Metropolitan M. E. Church, at the corner of Four-and-a-half and C streets. The members of the Convention were seated in reserved places in front of the pulpit, while a large number of ladies and gentlemen occupied the auditorium. The Marine Band was seated in the gallery, while the pulpit was occupied by General Denver, President of the Convention; General Cadwallader, of Pennsylvania; General Henry S. Lane, of Indiana; General Albert Pike, General W. T. Sherman, General Irwin McDowell, and others.

At 12 o'clock precisely General Denver called the meeting to order, and Dr. Tiffany, pastor of the church, offered up a fervent prayer for the blessing of Heaven upon the exercises of the day. After the band had discoursed a choice selection in the most exquisite manner,

Secretary Kenaday read the following letter from the Hon. CALEB CUSHING, who had been previously announced as the Orator of the day.

WASHINGTON, January 12, 1874.

MY DEAR GENERAL: I feel compelled, most reluctantly, to request the Committee of Arrangements to excuse me from the contemplated duty of addressing the Veterans of the Mexican War at the approaching Convention, in consideration of the pending question in the Senate, of my nomination to the office of Chief Justice, which seems to me to require of me abstention from any such public manifestation at the present time; and this, not in regard to myself alone, but equally out of respect for the Executive, the Senate, and for the Convention itself. This conclusion, the result of imperative conviction of propriety, is most painful

to me, but cannot, I feel sure, interfere with the perfect success of the Convention in all the great objects for which it has been assembled.

I have the honor to remain, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

C. CUSHING.

Gen. J. W. DENVER, *President, &c.*

President Denver informed the assemblage that at the earnest solicitation of the Committee of Arrangements, the Hon. JAMES S. NEGLEY, member of Congress from the Pittsburgh District of Pennsylvania, had consented to deliver an address suitable to the occasion. He then, amidst the applause following the announcement, introduced General Negley as one of the Pennsylvania volunteers in the Mexican War.

#### ORATION OF GENERAL J. S. NEGLEY.

*Veterans and Comrades of the Mexican War:*

I appear before you this morning with some degree of embarrassment, and under circumstances creating, I hope, a strong claim upon your indulgence. The place assigned me in to-day's ceremonies should have been filled by the Hon. Caleb Cushing, who would have performed the duty so acceptably to us all, but who, for obvious reasons of delicacy, deemed it proper to decline the enviable honor. I appreciate and regret your disappointment; I trust, however, to give the hour as it flies some abiding impressions that will linger in your memories with the pleasing recollection of your visit to the capital.

The occasion of this meeting is of a character no less unusual than interesting. The mind goes forth to enter into communion with wonderful historical achievements since you fell into line to defend the honor of your government in its third great war. Then most of you had just entered upon the threshold of manhood, full of the hopes, the visions, the enthusiasm of youth. Since then mighty events have illuminated the chapters of our history. Grand has been the fulfilment of the destinies of our race since Taylor and Scott tented the first battalions of their gallant armies on the soil of Mexico. It is like an Arabian tale of real life to speak of the wrecks of human ambition, and the triumphs of truth, christianity, and universal liberty, since you eventuated the first page of the biography of the armies that forced an insolent and treacherous government to salute with respect the Stars and Stripes in the ancient capital of the Aztecs.

In little more than a quarter of a century great States have grown up on the foundations thus previously laid by the achievements of your arms. The claims of humanity have been vindicated, the rights of the American citizen guaranteed, and the grandeur of our national unity preserved; our commerce has silently extended its influence from sea to sea, from continent to continent, until the waters of the globe are being navigated by the peaceful harbinger of American enterprise. Is it, therefore, not eminently proper that we should meet in these days of joyous peace and public safety to exchange cordial felicitations with dear old comrades, and bathe in the sweet waters of our memories the record of heroic deeds and humble valor now dimmed by the sweep of years? Yes; we should be thankful that to us Providence has granted the privilege to witness such fruits as wars do not often bring forth.

You have met and saluted, but look in vain for many, *very* many who would have lived years of pleasure in *one* day of fraternal meeting like this. Sadly we remember that they have journeyed to the other shore; the laurel for them is interwoven with the cypress; their fame crowns the cenotaph of the nation's dead.

Oh, there are times when the heart of a man is as easily touched with emotion as that of a woman. Mine is moved when I gaze upon the venerable faces of the companions of my youth, who have wended their way hither to participate in to-day's proceedings.

In bearing testimony to the services of our armies in Mexico, it is opportune that I recall a few historical facts.

The thread of circumstances which led to the war with Mexico originated in the colonization of Texas by American citizens. It was the advance of civilization of this continent, another degree in its progress to destiny, and *not*, as it has often been stated, the result of national polity on either side, although it be true

that Mexico, like Spain, adhered to a pertinacity of dominion, while her incompetency to maintain it was known to all the world.

A long period of military and semi-barbarous despotism, with a degrading superstition, had buried their letters, arts, and progress in chaos with the rights of the citizens. In the space of forty-nine years being cursed with thirty-two different forms of government and seventy-seven different presidents, dictators and military rulers, no wonder that the country yet was filled with deeds of treachery, rapacity and blood, accompanied by a system of merciless oppression, extortion and fraud; nevertheless, Cortez had transplanted to it a Spanish "civilization" a hundred years before our Pilgrim fathers landed at Plymouth Rock, and there had been floated away argosies of gold, silver, jewels and precious stores.

In 1836 the Texan revolution separated that country from Mexico, and during the same period Santa Anna was busy with his intrigues and revolts.

The bitter opposition of Mexico to the independence of Texas was naturally a question of deep interest to the citizens of the United States, and the effort to fasten upon them a despotism worse than an absolute monarchy was watched with increasing anxiety. The repeated outrages and spoliations were referred to in a message from the President of the United States as early as February 8, 1837. This was followed by a resolution of the United States Senate March 1, 1837, acknowledging the independence of Texas, and by an ordinance of a convention of that State assenting to its annexation; Mexico then had presented the alternative of abandoning her claims or going to war.

The Mexican army of the North was ordered to advance on Matamoras, and on April 4, 1846, General Arista was directed to cross the Rio Grande, attack and destroy the American army.

The cup of forbearance was now exhausted, and Congress called upon to make provisions for the defense of our territory.

The Mexican government had under arms 45,000 troops, while General Taylor arrived before Matamoras with only 3,000 combatants out of 5,000 men. With this small, but effective, force he inaugurated the brilliant campaign that led to the victories of Palo Alto and Resaca de la Palma, the siege and capture of Monterey, and the battle of Buena Vista, where, with 4,500 men and fifteen cannon, he routed and nearly captured Santa Anna with 20,000 of his best troops.

It would be interesting to dwell upon the unwavering courage, splendid discipline and toilsome marches of this gallant army; but I fear the details would weary you.

Now let us follow the troops, 8,000 in number, withdrawn from General Taylor's army after it had been re-enforced, in their departure with General Scott's army in his movement on Vera Cruz, a city of 15,000 inhabitants, immediately upon the shore of the Gulf of Mexico. It was encircled by a continual line of strong fortifications, bastions, and redans mounted with heavy guns, 86 in number, and garrisoned with 3,000 men. On the sea-front stood the castle of San Juan d'Ulloa, mounting 128 guns, and garrisoned with 1,000 men of the troops of the line.

General Scott commenced the attack March 9, 1847, and after skillful approaches, fierce cannonading, and brilliant examples of heroism and generalship the city surrendered, March 29, with the honors of war. This marvelous success of our arms was followed by important operations in the interior of the country.

Santa Anna, in speaking of the advance of Scott's army, said: "In every defile of these mountains they will find a Thermopylae." The disposition of the Mexican army at Cerro Gordo, near the village of Plan del Rio, was wisely chosen by the enemy; the approaches were exceedingly difficult and strongly defended by natural obstructions, formidable batteries, lines of abattis, and the entire Mexican army. The result of this battle was decisive, and will always be famous in history. With less than 9,000 men General Scott routed the enemy and captured 3,000 prisoners, five generals, seven standards and forty-three cannon, and opened an easy approach to the capital.

After delays that we can not speak of without regret, General Scott pursued his victorious march toward the interior, driving the enemy from his stronghold at Orizaba and the castle of Perote, and treating with contempt the motto of General Salas, "War without pity, unto death." He met and punished the enemy at Amazogue, and gave his army a respite at Puebla, where his forces were augmented to 10,276 of all arms; 2,215 of these were on the sick list.

On August 6, leaving Colonel Child, with about 500 effective men, chiefly Pennsylvanians, the main army, with the daring and rashness of Cortez, marched over *his* route to the capital against strong defensive positions, overwhelming odds, and the desperate hopes of Santa Anna, and entered the city triumphant September 14, 1847.

To tell you how these battles were won, and the instances of personal gallantry, and sum up the valuable captures, would occupy more time than your patience would accord me. The heroic and successful defense of Puebla is itself worthy of the brightest page in the historian's accounts of these events. I would also be pleased to consider the achievements of our troops in other portions of Mexico and Texas, if it was opportune to narrate their services.

The treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo was ratified March 10, 1848. General Herrera was elected president, and the American flag hauled down from the palace amid salvos from Mexican artillery. The United States were enriched by the vast extent of country now including the States and Territories of California and Nevada, Utah, Colorado, Arizona and New Mexico, in addition to the peaceful control of Texas, to accomplish all of which the public debt was only increased \$27,000,859 73, and even this comparatively small sum was lessened by military contributions collected in Mexico.

Where in history is to be found a contrast with the military and political successes crowded into the experience of the survivors of the Mexican war? I never turn to contemplate them but I am impressed with the traces of providential watchfulness for the consummation of some great purpose. Millions attest to the grandeur of the achievements.

At a dinner given by Mr. Peabody about the time of General Scott's departure, the great Duke of Wellington was led to express the opinion that *if* he would adopt the plan of campaign which he *did* actually adopt, he would prove himself to be one of the greatest generals of the age. I know each of you will join me in saying, this tribute was worthily bestowed.

His army furnished a glorious contingent to the officers of the late war, and to-day one of its representatives fills with unclouded honor the position of Chief Magistrate of the nation; another commands her armies with the world's acclaim of praise, and numbers fill high stations of trust and influence.

This small assembly, however, silently admonishes me that death has been busy in our ranks, and that we all shall soon sleep under the daisies. But the development of our work will still move on through future ages; it has already yielded a priceless interest.

California has a population of 750,000; Utah, of 120,000; Colorado, of 105,000; Arizona, of 12,000; New Mexico, of 110,000; Nevada, of 100,000; and Texas, of 1,000,000, with a territory larger than all the States east of the Mississippi river, and yielding products of fabulous wealth. With what firm steps the prosperity of America has advanced since Napoleon III. wrote to General Forey in these words: "It is our interest that the Republic of the United States shall be powerful and prosperous, but it is not at all to our interest that she should grasp the whole Gulf of Mexico, rule thence the Antilles, as well as South America, and be the sole dispenser of the products of the New World."

Reason and patriotism sanction the exulting pride of the old Mexican soldier. His services have brought within the influence of civil and religious liberty a grand realm, in a favorite clime, with the wealth of the Indies.

Shut now the volume of history, and tell me on what principle of human justice shall be the reward bestowed by a grateful country upon the few survivors who surpassed the adventures of Pizarro and Cortez, but who enacted no tragedies like those of Quatimozin, Anaeona, or Atahmaepa?

If my will could summon the power I would write their names in letters of living light on the unbroken columns of my country, and inscribe their deeds on the consecrated folds of the flag of our Union, which to-day commands the respect of every nation of the world.

After the band had again discoursed eloquent music, the President advanced to the desk with General Albert Pike. He was welcomed most cordially, and General Denver remarked: "You all know and love General Pike. He will read the poem prepared for the occasion."

POEM READ BEFORE THE NATIONAL CONVENTION OF MEXICAN WAR VETERANS,  
JANUARY 16, 1874.

“ Wheu California was a foreign land ! ”  
How many shadowy, ghost-like figures stand  
Between that Then and Now ! —forms of dead Years,  
Old, meager, pale ; and four all blood and tears,  
With faces full of pain and agony,  
And sitting bowed in speechless misery :  
And three, the farthest from us, laurel-crowned,  
The Years for victories over foreign foes renowned.

Comrades and Friends, the glorious Past recall ;  
Live in it again ; in memory upon all  
Your well-known fields of battle stand again,  
Young, hopeful, eager, proud, as you were then—  
Rebels, against the tyranny of time,  
Ride through the hills, the mountain-passes climb ;  
Camp on the streams through fertile vales that flow,  
From the broad beds of everlasting snow ;  
Hear once again the Aztec eagle scream ;  
See once again Santana’s lances gleam ;  
The toils and hardships of the march endure ;  
Win glory, and your country’s thanks secure.

“ When California was a foreign land ! ”—  
If time’s not measured by the dropping sand  
That counts the silent moments as they lit,  
But by the great deeds that are done in it,  
Then, Comrades, ’t is a century or more  
Since Yankee arms the flag of glory bore,  
From Palo Alto, and from Vera Cruz,  
Destined the day upon no field to lose,  
To the Belen gate ; and on its every fold  
To have new glories added to the old ;—  
By Taylor’s legions won at Monterey :  
On Buena Vista’s memorable day ;  
Where Kearney led to victory his command,  
And Stockton’s sailors learned to fight on land ;  
At Sacramento, where the brave troops, led  
By Doniphan, the foe discomfited ;  
On Churubusco’s bloody causeway won ;  
By deeds of valor at Contreras done ;  
When Worth and Quitman stormed Chapultepec,  
And Mexico lay stranded like a wreck.

After Resaca, when the Motherland,  
With sword uplifted in her mighty hand,  
Called on her sons to meet the braggart foe,  
And bear her banners into Mexico,  
Her trumpet-call, in every hamlet heard,  
The North and South alike inspired and stirred.  
Then from the icy hills of pine-clad Maine,  
And the great lakes, rang out the same refrain,  
To the Mexique Gulf and farthest Arkansas—  
“ Ready ! ” and “ Forward to the seat of war ! ”  
Then from the cities reigning by the sea,  
And inland marts of earnest industry,  
From the lone homes of hardy husbandmen,  
Came forth the toilers with the plough and pen,

Idlers and artisans, to volunteer ;  
 To all alike their country's honor dear.  
 Little they cared the cause of war to know ;  
 Enough for them that in far Mexico,  
 Our little army, then the nation's pride,  
 Faced gallantly red war's advancing tide,  
 And if not shortly reinforced would be,  
 It and the nation's flag, in jeopardy :—  
 The flag that tyranny abhors and hates,  
 Whose golden Stars the symbols were of States,  
 Each Star a sun that with its own light shone,  
 Not planets, with reflected light alone,  
 And making with their stellar harmony  
 The Constellation's radiant unity.  
 Then, one by one, the days of glory came,  
 That neither North nor South alone could claim,  
 Nor wished to ; whose immortal memories are  
 The common heritage of every Star ;  
 Until the conquest of a nation crowned  
 Our arms, and golden California found  
 No tyrant, by the right of conquest Lord,  
 To rule her by the tenure of the sword :  
 But Freedom, ruling by her right divine,  
 Making her, too, a Star, with ours to shine.  
 Nor did we take her by the sword alone,  
 But by fair purchase made her all our own.

England remembers, with no lessening pride,  
 The old fields by her sons' blood sanctified ;  
 Remembers Agincourt, and Crecy, too,  
 And Poictiers, as well as Waterloo.  
 Shall the old glories of our arms grow pale,  
 Eclipsed by the later ? Shall the names grow stale,  
 And dim, like stars veiled by an envious cloud,  
 Of which their country once was justly proud ?  
 Let us, at least, in reverence hold these names,  
 And guard with jealousy their worthy fames ;  
 Honoring, as then we honored, all the brave,  
 When Illinois strewed flowers on Butler's grave,  
 When Indiana mourned the fate of Yell,  
 And Mississippi wept when Hardin fell ;  
 Remembering that we all were Yankees there,  
 And in the common glory had a share,  
 Consenting not that any State should claim  
 Exclusive right to any hero's fame.

Enough ! But I must try your patience still,  
 Or a reluctant promise not fulfill,  
 To read the story of one glorious day,  
 Writ when its echoes scarce had died away.

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### BUENA VISTA.

From the Rio Grande's waters to the icy lakes of Maine  
 Let all exult ! For we have met the enemy again.  
 Beneath their stern old mountains we have met them in their pride,  
 And rolled from Buena Vista back the battle's bloody tide ;  
 Where the enemy came surging swift like the Mississippi's flood,  
 And the Reaper, Death, with strong arms swung his sickle red with blood.

Santana boasted loudly that before two hours were past  
 His lancers through Saltillo should pursue us fierce and fast.  
 On comes his solid infantry, line marching after line,  
 Lo ! their great standards in the sun like sheets of silver shine ;  
 With thousands upon thousands—yea, with more than three to one—  
 Their forest of bright bayonets fierce-flashing in the sun.

Lo ! Guanajuato's regiment, Morela's boasted corps,  
 And Guadalajara's chosen troops—all veterans tried before.  
 Lo ! galloping upon the right four thousand lances gleam,  
 Where, floating in the morning wind, their blood-red pennons stream ;  
 And here his stern artillery climbs up the broad plateau ;  
 To-day he means to strike at us an overwhelming blow.

Now, Wool, hold strongly to the heights ! for, lo ! the mighty tide  
 Comes, thundering like an avalanche, deep, terrible and wide.  
 Now, Illinois, stand steady ! Now, Kentucky, to their aid !  
 For a portion of our line, alas ! is broken and dismayed.  
 Great bands of shameless fugitives are fleeing from the field,  
 And the day is lost if Illinois and brave Kentucky yield.

One of O'Brien's guns is gone ! On, on their masses drift,  
 Till their cavalry and infantry outflank us on the left ;  
 Our light troops, driven from the hills, retreat in wild dismay,  
 And round us gathers thick and dark the Mexican array.  
 Santana thinks the day is gained ; for, now approaching near,  
 Miñon's dark cloud of lancers sternly menaces our rear.

Now Lincoln, gallant gentleman, lies dead upon the field,  
 Who strove to stay those cravens when before the storm they reeled.  
 Fire, Washington ! fire fast and true ! Fire, Sherman, fast and far !  
 Lo ! Bragg comes thundering to the front to breast the adverse war.  
 Santana thinks the day is gained ? On, on his masses crowd,  
 And the roar of battle swells again more terrible and loud.

Not yet ! Our brave old General comes to retrieve the day.  
 Kentucky to the rescue ! Mississippi, to the fray !  
 Again our line advances ! Gallant Davis fronts the foe,  
 And back before his rifles in red waves the lancers flow.  
 Upon them yet once more, ye brave ! The avalanche is stayed !  
 Back roll the Aztec multitudes, all broken and dismayed.

Ride ! May, to Buena Vista ! For the lancers gain our rear,  
 And we have few troops there to check their vehement career.  
 Arkansas and Kentucky, charge ! Yell, Porter, Vaughn are slain ;  
 But the shattered troops cling desperately unto that crimsoned plain ;  
 Till, with the lancers intermixed, pursuing and pursued,  
 Westward, in combat hot and close, drifts off the multitude.

And May comes charging from the hills with his ranks of flaming steel,  
 While, shattered with a sudden fire, the foe already reel :  
 They flee amain ! Now to the left, to stay the torrent there,  
 Or else the day is surely lost in horror and despair ;  
 For their hosts pour swiftly onward, like a river in the spring ;  
 Our flank is turned, and on our left their cannon thundering.

Now, good artillery ! bold dragoons ! Steady, brave hearts ! be calm !  
 Through rain, cold, hail and thunder, now nerve each gallant arm !  
 What though their shot fall round us here far thicker than the hail ?  
 We'll stand against them as the rock stands firm against the gale.

Lo ! their battery is silenced ! but our iron sleet still showers ;  
They falter—halt—retreat ! Hurrah ! the glorious day is ours !

In front, too, has the fight gone well, where upon gallant Lane  
And on stout Mississippi the thick lanceers charged in vain ;  
Ah ! brave Third Indiana ! you have nobly wiped away  
The reproach that through another corps befell your State to-day ;  
For back, all broken and dismayed, before your storm of fire,  
Santana's boasted chivalry, a shattered wreck, retire.

Now, charge again, Santana, or the day is surely lost ;  
For back, like broken waves, along our left your hordes are tossed.  
Still faster roar his batteries—his whole reserve moves on :  
More work remains before us ere the good fight is won.  
Now for your wives and children men ! Stand steady yet once more !  
Fight for your lives and honors ! Fight as you never fought before ?

Ho ! Hardin breasts it bravely ! McKee and Bissell there  
Stand firm before the storm of balls that fill the astonished air ;  
The lanceers dash upon them, too ! The foe swarm ten to one ;  
Hardin is slain ; McKee and Clay the last time see the sun,  
And many another gallant heart in that last desperate fray  
Grew cold, its last thoughts turning to its loved ones far away.

Speed, speed, artillery, to the front ! for the hurricane of fire  
Crushes those noble regiments, reluctant to retire !  
Speed swiftly ! Gallop ! Ah, they come ! Again Bragg climbs the ridge,  
And his grape sweeps down the swarming foe, as a strong man moweth sedg  
Thus baffled in their last attack, compelled perforce to yield,  
Still menacing in firm array, their columns leave the field.

The guns still roared at intervals, but silence fell at last,  
And on the dead and dying came the evening shadows fast ;  
And then, above the mountains, rose the cold moon's silver shield,  
And patiently and pitying looked down upon the field ;  
While, careless of his wounded, and neglectful of his dead,  
Despairingly and sullenly Santana southward fled.

And thus on Buena Vista's heights a long day's work was done,  
And thus our brave old General another battle won.  
And still our glorious banner waves, unstained by flight or shame,  
And the Mexicans, among their hills, still tremble at our name.  
So, honor unto those that stood ! disgrace to those that fled !  
And everlasting glory unto Buena Vista's dead !

With the reading of the poem and the music which followed, the exercises announced by the Committee were closed.

The following extract from the report in the DAILY CHRONICLE shows the subsequent proceedings :

The reading of the poem was received with many expressions of applause. When General Pike had concluded the Marine Band performed a choice selection and it was supposed that the services were concluded, but not so ; the members of the Convention had become interested with the good things they had heard and wanted more, and, seeing the illustrious gentlemen who occupied the platform, they decided to call upon them. General HENRY S. LANE, of Indiana, was the first called out. His presence at once commanded respect. Tall and straight an Indian, with a beard as white as snow, he presented a very handsome picture as he stood forth to welcome his old comrades in arms.

With a delivery evidently coming from a heart full of joy he welcomed the heroes of Mexico, and said that in the days of '46 and '48 they had fought for our

common country; now he greeted them from all parts of the United States as brethren, knowing but one flag and one country. The results of the war with Mexico were great; the acquisition of an immense amount of valuable territory; the settlement beyond dispute of the Western Texas boundary question; the great wealth which California had already brought forth and given to the world; Nevada, with its mineral wealth, Texas, with its immense resources, were instances of what return the work of the Mexican volunteers was bringing to the nation. The address of General Lane was received with great enthusiasm, and then General CADWALLADER, of Philadelphia, responded to a very complimentary call. His remarks were pleasantly received, and when he had concluded the audience rose almost *en masse* and called for General SHERMAN, who was at once introduced by General Denver. The General good-humoredly came forward and said that he wore the badge of the veterans of the Mexican war. He had come as a soldier in obedience to orders from his superior officers of the Convention. He sympathized heartily with the motives which had prompted the gathering of veterans of the Mexican war from all parts of the country. And he would say, not only as the General of the Armies of the United States, but as a citizen of Washington, that whatever he was required to do in furthering the interests of the veterans, they might rely upon him. He had been sent in 1846 with a small body of regular troops around Cape Horn to California. It then took one hundred and ninety-eight days of painful travel to reach that, then unexplored, territory, with only 1,600 inhabitants, composed of Mexicans, native Californians, and Kamakas or emigrants from the Sandwich Islands. Think of the change in twenty-seven years. Now the quick passage by rail and steamship is really wonderful. All of these great changes are due to the efforts of the Mexican veterans. They are the link between the old and new. He doubted if so many changes had taken place in any country in the world, in such a short space of time. The country has gone through a terrible ordeal, but it had come out all right, and now the great object of all citizens from every part of the country should be to make the nation great and good, its people good men, good women, and good children. In eloquent terms he alluded to the representatives from the Southern States present, and taught those present a beautiful lesson of what was due from each other by the people of the country, both North and South. In closing he referred to his friends South, singling out ex-Governor Hebert, of Louisiana, and G. Mason Graham, saying that they, as citizens of that State, had the same interest and feeling as he, (Sherman,) a citizen of Ohio, had for his country all the way through. They met as veterans of the war with Mexico, willing and ready to defend that same old flag which they had followed from the shores of the Gulf of Mexico to the halls of the Montezumas. [Continued applause.]

General IRWIN McDOWELL was then called out, and in a pleasant, gossipy style related many incidents of the war, which entertained his hearers greatly. The quaint manner in which he put the stories of the war pleased and attracted his former comrades, who deeply regretted his *congē*.

Judge T. J. MACKEY then made a brilliant and eloquent address, dwelling upon the manner in which his regiment, the Palmetto, of South Carolina, had conducted itself at the battle of Mexico, and then referred briefly to the different circumstances of civil war, which had separated many of the survivors of the Mexican war, and paid a high tribute to the soldiers of both sides during the war for the Union. The men of the South feel that it is good to be here, as do the men of the North. They have met here as brothers. Hereafter, in peace, they are friends; in war, they are brothers in arms. Having sheathed their swords, they can be trusted as they trust their fellow-countrymen.

Ex-Governor PAUL O. HEBERT, of Louisiana, was next introduced, and made a telling speech. He was followed by Colonel JOHNSTON, of Georgia, in a few remarks.

The Convention then adjourned to meet at Willard Hall, and proceed with the business for which it was called.

On arriving at the Hall it was found that a party who had previously engaged the premises for evening performances, had closed the doors, and Colonel P. H.

Allbach, Treasurer of the Washington Association, was requested to engage another hall for the concluding business of the Convention.

Colonel Allbach stated that he would have Masonic Temple fitted out for the purpose by 10 o'clock a. m. to-morrow, and the Convention adjourned to that time and place.

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### THIRD DAY—JANUARY 17, 1874.

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The Convention was called to order at 10 o'clock a. m., in Masonic Temple. President J. W. Denver in the chair; A. M. Kenaday, Wm. Linn Tidball, of New York, and O. R. Smith, of North Carolina, officiating as Secretaries.

The reading of the minutes of yesterday's proceedings was dispensed with by vote of the Convention.

Colonel Wm. Linn Tidball, on behalf of the Committee appointed for that purpose, reported the following

#### MEMORIAL.

*To the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled:*

The undersigned, your petitioners, of the survivors of those who served in the war of the United States against Mexico, in the years of 1846, 1847 and 1848, respectfully invite the attention of your honorable body to the conscientious consideration of a few facts important in their estimation, and humbly crave that the prayer of this petition may be mercifully granted to them as a recognition of, and reward for, the valuable services they rendered the Government and people in that war. Although more than a quarter of a century has elapsed since the establishment of the peace which followed that sanguinary struggle, it is not presumed that the remarkable events of that period are so remote as to have passed from the memory of those who then lived, or of so little consequence as to have received no attention from those who have gleaned their knowledge of the past from the pages of history. It is not thought to be necessary, at least in this brief memorial, to enumerate the many marvelous benefits that have resulted from that war to this country and its numerous inhabitants, even though it might not be amiss, and we earnestly entreat that hereafter we may be allowed, at some early future day, to bring vividly to your recollection some of these extraordinary advantages. For the present, suffice it to say that the immense territory acquired through the war, extending to the Pacific ocean, has opened to our Government and people the commerce of the world, while the precious ores concealed beneath its surface have served to increase the wealth of the people and develop the latent resources of the country in a degree unparalleled in the prosperity of any nation of ancient or modern civilization. But while thousands upon thousands who never shared in the dangers and privations of that war have been immeasurably benefitted by the acquisition of that vast territory, very few of those who won that precious possession, by their bravery and blood have realized any advantages, direct or indirect, from their own glorious achievements. It is a painful fact to record that very many of those who fought valiantly in that war for the honor of our flag, the rights of our nation, and the peace which has ever since existed between us and our sister Republic, are now not only poor in this world's goods, so essential to the comforts of human happiness, but absolutely destitute of the very necessities of existence, and pensioners upon the charity of those of their comrades in arms whom fortune has more highly favored. There are many others not so poor, but still poor, whom the pittance we crave of our country would save from much future unavoidable suffering, while it would enable those above want to bestow their charity more liberally upon those who are in distress or destitution. Your peti-

tioners, therefore, humbly pray your honorable body, in view of their valuable services to the country, the long period of time that has since elapsed, the great reduction of their number by death, the result of wounds received in battle or disease contracted in that service, the encroachments of age, with its attendant disabilities, the extreme poverty of some of their number, and the inability of others to render them adequate assistance, that you will grant, without favor or discrimination, to all those who served in that war for a period of sixty days, and were honorably discharged, the small sum of eight dollars per month for and during their natural lives. And your humble petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

WILLIAM LINN TIDBALL, New York.  
P. O. HEBERT, Louisiana.  
DAVID S. JOHNSTON, Georgia.  
M. D. MANSON, Indiana.  
ED. R. BILES, Pennsylvania.

*Committee.*

On motion of Colonel David S. Johnston, of Georgia, the memorial was unanimously adopted.

Colonel Tidball also read, on behalf of the Committee, the form of a bill for an Act of Congress covering the objects in view, which was accepted by the Convention as an appendage to the memorial.

Judge T. J. Mackey, of South Carolina, moved that the Secretary of the National Association of Veterans of the Mexican War be, and he is hereby instructed, to have the memorial to Congress properly engrossed for presentation, and that the President and Secretary of the Convention attach their names thereto, and when so prepared it be transmitted to the two Houses of Congress by the President of the Convention.

Colonel F. Peteler, of Minnesota, presented a copy of a petition prepared by surviving soldiers of the Mexican War residing in that State, with a list of names of members of the State Association. The petition asks Congress to place their names on the Pension Rolls of the country.

Mr. E. N. O. Clough presented a form of enrollment to be adopted, and obtained leave to file it with the Secretary. The form is tabulated as follows: 1.—name; 2.—age; 3.—rank; 4.—letter of co., &c.; 5.—Commanding officers; 6.—regiment, &c.; 7.—commanding officer; 8.—when enlisted; 9.—where enlisted; 10.—when discharged; 11.—where discharged; 12, 13, 14.—description of eyes, hair, complexion; 15.—present P. O. address; 16.—remarks.

The hour fixed for that purpose having arrived, the Convention formed and proceeded to the Executive Mansion to pay their respects to President Grant.

The procession headed by General Denver, General Cadwallader, and Secretary A. M. Kenaday, and marshaled by ex-Governor Hebert, marched by way of F street and the avenue to the President's House, where they filed into the East Room and formed a hollow square around the room.

General Grant entered at the western central door unaccompanied, and was met by ex-Governor Hebert, who very briefly said that his old comrades in the Mexican war had called to pay him their respects. The President immediately proceeded to the head of the column, accompanied by General Denver, and reversing the usual custom, marched around the whole line himself, grasping each man's hand and giving it a hearty shake, upon his being introduced.

After completing the hand-shaking Colonel J. H. Ruddach stepped forward and pinned to the lapel of the President's coat, taking it from his own, one of the Baltimore association badges. The President then stopped a few moments and chatted with many of the veterans, during which time he stated that during the war he acted as quartermaster, commissary and adjutant. He said that Colonel

Whissler was colonel of his regiment, but was not with them in Mexico, the regiment being commanded at first by Brevet-Major Allen. The veterans then reformed and returned to the Masonic Temple, where business was resumed.

Upon being called to order the President called the attention of the Convention to a beautiful vase which had been placed upon a center table on the front of the platform brought from South Carolina, and requested that it be received standing, all present at once rising to their feet.

The vase stands upon a square base of about 10 by 12 inches, and three inches in height, resting upon eagle's claws, all of solid silver, and beautifully chased in frost work, representing the charge and repulse at New Orleans. It was purchased solely by the ladies of South Carolina, two thousand subscribing for that purpose, and bore the following inscription on the front: "Presented by the Ladies of South Carolina to Major-General Andrew Jackson, January 8, 1815."

Inscriptions on the obverse: coat of arms of South Carolina, and motto on both sides in full; presented by General Andrew Jackson to Captain W. B. Stanley, in trust, for the last survivor of the Palmetto regiment.

Judge Mackey, on being requested by the President to give its history, said the vase was presented to General Jackson by the ladies of the 9th Congressional district of South Carolina, at the close of the War of 1812. General Jackson bequeathed it to the State, to be given to the man who, in the next foreign war, should be deemed entitled to it by acts of valor and gallantry. It was decided after the last war that no one man should be selected to hold it, and it was presented to W. B. Stanley, to hold in trust for the last survivor of the Palmetto regiment.

On motion of Dr. J. M. Todd, it was resolved that the thanks of the Convention be tendered to the Palmetto delegation, who had afforded them the pleasure of beholding the inestimable "Jackson vase," whose beautiful bright surface mirrors our happy re-union greetings. May the memories of the past, like its shimmering beauty, never grow dim!

Judge T. J. Mackey, South Carolina, on behalf of the committee for that object, then submitted, for the organization and government of a National Association of Veterans of the Mexican War, the following

#### CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS.

ARTICLE I. This association shall be known by the name and style of the National Association of Veterans of the Mexican War, and shall be composed of soldiers, sailors, and marines who served in that war, now in the service of the United States, or who have been honorably discharged.

ART. II. The association shall hereafter meet once a year, on the 22d day of February, in the city of Washington, District of Columbia, or at such other time, and in such other place as shall be selected by the association.

ART. III. The objects of the association shall be to organize the scattered veterans of the Mexican war into one body, upon the broad principles of equality, fraternity, and charity, for the promotion of social intercourse, good-fellowship, and all proper assistance.

ART. IV. The officers of the association shall be a president, one vice president from each State, Territory, and District of Columbia, the army and the navy, one treasurer, five secretaries, a council of administration of one from each State, Territory, and the District of Columbia, the army and the navy, and such other officers as may be provided for in the by-laws.

ART. V. The officers of the association shall be chosen by a vote of a majority of the members present at the annual meeting thereof, and shall continue in office until the next annual meeting, and until their successors shall be elected.

ART. VI. All members in good standing in State and other local organizations shall be entitled to membership in this association, and shall become members upon written application by a vote of a majority of the members present at any regular meeting of the association.

ART. VII. No alteration or amendment shall be made to this constitution, unless the same shall have been proposed in writing by three members at an annual meeting, and sustained by a vote of two-thirds of the members present, after due notice to the association of the proposed alteration or amendment.

BY-LAWS.

1. The duties of the officers of this association shall be such as usually devolve upon officers of similar associations.

2. The business of this association shall be conducted in accordance with the usages of legislative bodies in this country.

3. These by-laws may be altered or amended at any annual meeting of the association by a vote of two-thirds of the members present at such meeting.

FRANCIS E. PINTO,

T. J. MACKEY,

J. M. TODD,

WM. J. MACKEY,

W. T. WARD,

*Committee.*

On motion of General E. R. Biles, of Philadelphia, the Constitution and By-Laws were unanimously adopted.

On motion of Colonel Edward Cantwell, of Georgia, the delegates present and accredited to the National Convention, were made members of the National Association.

On motion of Dr. J. M. Todd, of Ohio, it was resolved, that the thanks of this National Convention are eminently due, and the same are hereby tendered to the Rev. Dr. W. H. Tiffany, of the Metropolitan M. E. Church, for his kindly ministrations, and also to the authorities of that Church for the generous donation of the use of their beautiful edifice for the literary exercises of the Convention.

On motion of Captain I. W. Griffith, of Iowa, the following resolution was adopted :

*Resolved*, That the delegates to this Convention from the several States and Territories, and the officers of the various local associations, be requested to use their influence to obtain the passage of a joint resolution in the several State Legislatures requesting their representatives in Congress to carry out the objects petitioned for by this Convention.

On motion of Mr. Osborn, of Indiana, it was

*Resolved*, That the delegates use their influence on their return home, to organize State and Territorial societies auxiliary to the National Association, and that they obtain the names of all the surviving veterans of the Mexican War, and have them properly and uniformly enrolled, and transmit copies to the Secretary of the National Association at Washington.

J. F. Ray, of Nevada, offered for adoption the following :

*Resolved*, That this Convention highly appreciate the generous and patriotic spirit manifested by the Legislature of California, in recommending Congress to grant to the soldiers of the Mexican War a pension for their services.

Adopted, and the California newspapers respectfully requested to publish the same.

On motion of Dr. J. M. Todd, of Ohio, it was

*Resolved*, That the thanks of the Convention are due, and are hereby tendered to President J. W. Denver, to Mr. A. M. Kenaday and the other Secretaries, and Colonel J. C. Kretschmar, Sergeant-at-arms, for the impartial and efficient manner in which they have discharged their duties during our recent sessions. Adopted.

On motion, the thanks of the Convention were voted to the local press of Washington for the careful and complete reports they have given the public of our proceedings, and to the press elsewhere, as far as our proceedings have been noticed.

On motion of General Manson, of Indiana, the Convention then proceeded to elect officers of the National Association for the ensuing year.

On motion of Colonel J. H. Ruddach, of Baltimore, General George Cadwallader, of Pennsylvania, was elected President by acclamation, and General J. W. Denver, of D. C., 1st Vice-President.

The following are the other Vice-Presidents and the Council of Administration.

U. S. ARMY.—W. T. Sherman, V. P., Washington, D. C.; Irwin McDowell, C. of A., Louisville, Ky.

U. S. NAVY.—Com. Fabius Stanley, V. P.; Surgeon General (retired) W. M. Wood, C. of A.

ALABAMA.—John Coffey, V. P., Fackler's P. O.; A. J. Huggins, C. of A., Scottsboro.

ARKANSAS.—James F. Fagan, V. P., Little Rock; J. C. Peay, C. of A., do.

CALIFORNIA.—Thomas J. Knipe, V. P., San Francisco; Hon. S. O. Houghton, C. of A., House of Representatives.

COLORADO.—S. N. Hoyt, V. P., Washington, D. C.; S. M. Logan, C. of A., Denver.

CONNECTICUT.—Not represented.

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.—J. W. Denver, V. P., Washington; Albert Pike, C. of A., do.

FLORIDA.—Not represented.

GEORGIA.—George S. Fisher, V. P., Augusta; D. S. Johnston, C. of A., Madison.

ILLINOIS.—M. L. Payne, V. P., Pontiac; W. A. Richardson, C. of A., Quincy.

INDIANA.—H. S. Lane, V. P., Crawfordsville; John Osborn, C. of A., Greencastle.

IOWA.—I. W. Griffith, V. P., DesMoines; M. M. Trumbull, C. of A., Dubuque.

KANSAS.—E. N. O. Clough, V. P., Leavenworth; Samuel Kennedy, C. of A., do.

KENTUCKY.—W. T. Ward, V. P., Louisville; J. F. Huber, C. of A., do.

LOUISIANA.—G. Mason Graham, V. P., Alexandria; Paul O. Hebert, C. of A., New Orleans.

MAINE.—Not represented.

MARYLAND.—J. H. Ruddach, V. P., Baltimore; Lewis F. Beeler, C. of A., do.

MASSACHUSETTS.—Isaiae Hull Wright, V. P., Boston; H. A. McGlenen, C. of A., Boston.

MICHIGAN.—J. N. A. L. Simonds, V. P., Tecumseh; Charles B. Kimball, C. of A., Adrian.

MINNESOTA.—W. A. Gorman, V. P., St. Paul; F. Peteler, C. of A., Minneapolis.

MISSISSIPPI.—D. H. Cooper, V. P., Georgetown, D. C.; Beverly Matthews, C. of A., Columbus.

MISSOURI.—James Shields, V. P., Carrollton; A. W. Doniphan, C. of A., Richmond.

NEBRASKA.—Not represented.

NEVADA.—W. W. McCoy, V. P., Eureka; W. F. Stewart, C. of A., Virginia City.

NEW HAMPSHIRE.—T. P. Pierce, V. P., Nashua; Geo. Bowers, C. of A., do.

NEW JERSEY.—Charles Bowers, V. P., Newark; James E. Nattman, C. of A., do.

NEW YORK.—Joseph Hooker, V. P., New York; Francis E. Pinto, C. of A., do.

NORTH CAROLINA.—O. R. Smith, V. P., Raleigh; E. Cantwell, C. of A., Wilmington.

OHIO.—C. N. Allen, V. P., Steubenville; J. M. Todd, C. of A., Bridgeport.

OREGON AND WASHINGTON TERRITORY.—Joseph Lane, V. P., Roseburg, Oregon; James Tilton, C. of A., Seattle, W. T.

PENNSYLVANIA.—Robt. Klotz, V. P., Mauch Chunk; Wm. J. Mackey, C. of A., Philadelphia.

ROHDE ISLAND.—Not represented.

SOUTH CAROLINA.—W. B. Stanley, V. P., Columbia; T. J. Mackey, C. of A., Chester.

TENNESSEE.—Gideon J. Pillow, V. P., Memphis; Joseph Cooper, C. of A., Knoxville.

TEXAS.—G. H. Giddings, V. P., Brenham; S. B. Maxey, C. of A., Paris, Lamar Co.

VERMONT.—Not represented.

VIRGINIA.—Robt. G. Scott, V. P., Richmond; B. D. Harman, C. of A., Staunton.

WEST VIRGINIA.—G. A. Porterfield, V. P., Charlestown; John P. Baggs, C. of A., Wheeling.

WISCONSIN.—Dr. Otis Hoyt, V. P., Hudson; C. R. Johnson, C. of A., Black River Falls.

When the election of Secretaries was announced as being in order, on a motion to that effect the Convention decided that the First Secretary should be a resident of Washington, D. C.

SECRETARIES.—Alex. M. Kenaday, (of Cal.) Washington, D. C.; W. L. Schley, Baltimore, Md.; F. D. Clark, of New York; Josiah Given, Des Moines, Iowa; John K. Cooke, Norfolk, Va.

TREASURER.—Justus I. McCarthy, Washington, D. C.

On motion of Dr. J. M. Todd, of Ohio, General Edwin R. Biles, (1234 Ellsworth st. Phila.,) was elected Marshal of the Association.

After the election of secretaries had been announced Mr. Kenaday, who had been temporarily absent from the hall, resumed his labors, and, on discovering what had been done, announced to the Convention that his spare time was occupied by the duties of secretary of the local association, and that he would have to decline the honor of serving as first secretary of the national organization.

Mr. Nuttman, of California, moved that the declination be accepted. He knew his colleague well, and knew also that his proposition was not made in a spirit of buncome.

The Convention refused, by an almost unanimous vote, to receive Mr. Kenaday's excuse, when he informed the body that under the circumstances he would "accept the situation," and devote himself to the work imposed upon him with whatever of ability he possessed.

On motion of H. R. Crosby, the following members were appointed to select an appropriate design for a badge and seal for the National Association, viz.: General P. O. Hebert, Major A. J. Dallas, U. S. A., General James Tilton and H. R. Crosby.

On motion of W. J. Mackey, of Pa., the proceedings of the Convention were ordered to be published in pamphlet form.

On motion, a collection was taken up to defray the expenses. The Treasurer reported that \$56.40 was received.

On motion of Judge T. J. Mackey, of South Carolina, Colonel Wm. Linn Tidball, of New York, was appointed orator of the day for the next annual reunion.

On motion of O. R. Smith, of N. C., it was resolved, that the Vice-Presidents of the National Association are hereby authorized and requested to collect a sufficient sum from the several associations to defray the expenses incurred by the Convention.

On motion, the Convention adjourned to 7 o'clock p. m., at which time it was proposed to induct the officers of the National Association into their respective offices, and for such other business as may come before the Convention.

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#### EVENING SESSION.

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The Convention reassembled at 7 o'clock, President Denver in the chair, and A. M. Kenaday officiating as Secretary.

The question of place of meeting for the next assemblage of delegates being up for consideration, E. N. O. Clough named Leavenworth, Kansas, as a suitable place. General E. R. Biles, of Philadelphia, suggested the city of Baltimore. Dr. J. M. Todd, of Ohio, thought Washington City the most suitable place until the association had accomplished the desired legislation on the part of Congress. After which Messrs. Clough and Biles withdrew their recommendations, and Washington, D. C., was declared the unanimous choice of the Convention.

Colonel J. H. Ruddach, President of the Baltimore Association, assured the members that a warm reception would have awaited them at Baltimore had she been honored with their choice; but that they would come again to Washington with pleasure.

Major Patrick Hart, of Richmond, Va., submitted by the way of inquiry, whether this Convention should act on the question of a National Convention on the occasion of the 100th anniversary of the Nation's Birthday, July 4th, 1876.

General G. Mason Graham, of Louisiana, suggested that the National Association could settle the matter at their meeting next year.

The President, General J. W. Denver, then addressed the Convention as follows:

**COMRADES:** The work of the Convention has closed. It has done all that was expected of it, and I congratulate you on the success which has crowned your labors. In the discharge of the duties imposed on me as the presiding officer, I have endeavored to act with entire impartiality and fairness. If at any time I have failed to do so, or if at any time I have offended any one in the slightest degree, I trust that it will be looked on with leniency and not be attributed to wilfulness on my part. The position was an arduous one, and not sought for by me, but when it was conferred on me I did not shrink from it, and have discharged the duties imposed on me to the best of my abilities.

The Convention has been a grand success, and I congratulate you on this auspicious beginning of what every well-wisher of his country must hope may have many renewals. I trust we may have many meetings hereafter, and that we may always meet, as on this occasion, with feelings of the kindest and most fraternal affections, eschewing every sentiment which is not commensurate with the whole extent of our common country.

Returning you my sincere thanks for the kindness and courtesy shown me while acting as your presiding officer, I now declare the National Convention of the Survivors of the Mexican War adjourned *sine die*.

## INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS

OF THE

## NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF VETERANS OF THE MEXICAN WAR.

Judge T. J. Mackey, of South Carolina; General E. R. Biles, of Pennsylvania; and Colonel J. H. Ruddach, of Maryland, escorted General George Cadwallader, President of the Association, to the platform, who addressed the members substantially, as follows :

**COMRADES:** I cannot express the gratitude with which the honor that you have bestowed upon me by selecting me to preside over your organization, has inspired me. For several years past, as many of you well know, I have led a life of retirement from public affairs. I therefore did not seek, nor did I expect, the generous distinction with which you have honored me.

I have been very deeply moved by the incidents of this reunion, and the reflection which naturally spring from it. Here I have seen long forgotten faces, and have had incidents long-forgotten recalled as one and another of my old comrades would ask me, "don't you remember this place and that," which the lapse of twenty-seven years had caused to grow dim in my memory, but which their eager questions quickly recalled to my mind. Here in this assemblage comrades in arms have stood side by side again after a parting of more than a quarter of a century.

In that period of separation great events and mighty changes have taken place in our country. Yet those changes find us here all Americans to-day and united in a common country. I have been profoundly impressed by the sentiments uttered here by our comrades of Mexico from the South, who subsequently fought in the Confederate army. They were brave soldiers, who followed doubtless their honest convictions of duty, however mistaken those convictions may be regarded in the judgment of history. Let the soldiers of the Union always respond as they have done here in the same noble spirit. Foreign countries, indeed, I may say the whole world, have looked on with astonishment at the rapid rehabilitation of our country after the great convulsion through which it has but recently passed.

The time is opportune for annihilating all lingering differences that may yet divide American citizens. And in my judgment the men who fought valiantly in the late war, on both sides, can, if they come together, better settle those differences in the true interest of our great republic than any set of mere politicians. There can be no better period than the present. Peace and order prevail in our country; no dangers exist now, and none threaten the future, and all true Americans should be united in a common sentiment and effort for its perpetuation. I desire to say, in reference to one of the special objects of your meeting, that I sincerely hope that Congress will at once erase from the statute-books all laws which exclude from the pension rolls those veterans of the Mexican war and the war of 1812, who served since in the Confederate army. Again thanking you, comrades, for the honor you have done me, I can only add that I will make no promises, but will endeavor to perform all the duties that your kindness has devolved upon me. If I succeed in this as well as our gallant comrade, (General J. W. Denver,) who presided over your convention that organized this association, I know that you will be fully satisfied.

The other officers of the Association, heretofore enumerated, who were then present, were installed and proceeded to the transaction of business.

The following resolution, introduced by General Milroy, of Oregon, elicited

some discussion, and was finally passed as an expression of opinion by the Association, to wit :

*Resolved*, That the Congress of the United States is most earnestly requested by this Association to repeal all laws which prohibit the payment of any pension money to any soldier of the Mexican War, the War of 1812, or other wars, who served in the Confederate army.

At 9.30 p. m. the Association adjourned to meet in Washington, D. C., on the 22d of February, 1875.

Following is the bill submitted to Congress, January 26, 1874, by Genl. JOHN A. LOGAN, in the Senate, and Genl. JAMES S. NEGLEY, in the House :

*An Act granting Pensions to certain Soldiers and Sailors of the War of eighteen hundred and forty-six with Mexico, and the Widows of deceased Soldiers and Sailors.*

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled*, That the Secretary of the Interior be, and he is hereby authorized and directed to place on the pension roll the names of the surviving officers and enlisted men, including militia and volunteers, of the military and naval service of the United States, who served sixty days in the War of eighteen hundred and forty-six with Mexico, and were honorably discharged, and to such other officers and soldiers as may have been personally named in any resolution of Congress for any specific service in said war, although their term of service may have been less than sixty days, and who shall subscribe an oath to support the Constitution of the United States; and the surviving widows of such officers and enlisted men: *Provided*, That such widows shall not have remarried.

SEC. 2. *And be it further enacted*, That this act shall not apply to any person who is receiving a pension at the rate of eight dollars or more per month; nor to any person receiving a pension less than eight dollars per month, except for the difference between the pension now received and eight dollars per month. Pensions under this act shall be at the rate of eight dollars per month, except as herein provided, when a person is receiving a pension of less than eight dollars per month, and shall be paid to the persons entitled thereto from and after the passage of this act, for and during the term of their natural lives.

SEC. 3. *And be it further enacted*, That before the name of any person shall be placed upon the pension roll under this act, proof shall be made, under such rules and regulations as the Secretary of the Interior may prescribe, that the applicant is entitled to a pension under the provisions of this act; and any person who shall falsely take any oath required to be taken under the provisions of this act, shall be guilty of perjury; and the Secretary of the Interior shall cause to be stricken from the Pension Roll the name of any person whenever it shall appear, by proof satisfactory to him, that such name was put upon such roll through false or fraudulent representations as to the right of such person to a pension under the provisions of this act. The loss of a certificate of discharge shall not deprive the applicant of the benefits of this act, but other proof of services performed and of an honorable discharge, if satisfactory, shall be deemed sufficient.

SEC. 4. *And be it further enacted*, That the provisions of sections twelve and thirteen of an act entitled "An act supplementary to 'An act to grant pensions,'" approved July fourth, eighteen hundred and sixty-four, and of sections two, three and four of an act entitled "An act supplementary to several acts, relating to pensions," approved June sixth, eighteen hundred and sixty-six, shall be applicable to the pensions granted by this act, and no law now in existence, which in any way conflicts with the provisions of this act, shall be applicable to the survivors of the war with Mexico, above-mentioned, or be so construed as to deprive them of the benefits of this act.

## IMPORTANT CIRCULAR TO SURVIVORS OF THE WAR WITH MEXICO.

HEADQUARTERS NATIONAL ASSOCIATION

VETERANS OF THE MEXICAN WAR,

Washington, D. C., April 4, 1874.

**COMRADES:** You are probably aware that an obstacle has been thrown in our way to immediate success in obtaining pensions for surviving Veterans of the Mexican War; one which calls for prompt and energetic action on the part of all who feel an interest in the work inaugurated by the late National Convention, and especially of the officers of State and County organizations.

The Hon. J. H. Baker, Commissioner of Pensions, in response to an inquiry by the Committee of Pensions of the House of Representatives, is reported to have submitted an estimate of the probable number of survivors who would be entitled to receive pensions under the bill now before Congress, in which it is reckoned that out of the 73,260 total enlistments from the beginning to the close of the war of 1846-48, there are still living, in 1874, some 39,000—considerably more than one-half of the whole number!

It would be idle for us to argue the question with the Honorable Commissioner, or attempt to controvert the figures of his arithmeticians, who are said to have worked out this problem on the basis of mortality tables used by Life Insurance Companies in calculating the "Expectation of Life," and other processes used in the Census Bureau—applicable, perhaps, to the population of a vast country in judging of its decrease by natural mortality, but not to the case in point. We might, perhaps, (outside of official circles,) urge with some degree of plausibility that the casualties of that war diminished the force engaged in it materially; and that the great prevalence of chronic diseases contracted in the unhealthy tropics by unacclimated men who had escaped the dangers of the battle-field, sadly thinned our ranks during the thirteen years immediately following the Mexican campaign; and also that in 1861, the martial spirit slumbering in the bosoms of most of those remaining, carried large numbers of them into the late civil war, where hardship and exposure to dangers and disease hurried to untimely graves so many younger and more robust men.

But these arguments, easily comprehended by ourselves, who can count upon our fingers the number of our immediate companions in the Mexican war still living, would have little, if any, weight against the estimates of the Pension Bureau over the official signature of its chief functionary.

Now, in the present humor of Congress in regard to the expenditure of public money, it would be thought next to madness to ask members to add unto the immense appropriations required to run the Pension Bureau, the enormous sum which Commissioner Baker thinks he will require to meet the demands of our bill; and the only course left for us to pursue, in order to arrive at the approximate number of survivors, is to make a **THOROUGH CANVASS OF EVERY STATE AND TERRITORY** of the Union, through the instrumentality of our town, county and State organizations, with the aid of our friends of the public press, (to whom we are already under lasting obligations) and enroll as soon as possible the name of every known survivor, or widow of a veteran of Mexico, the post office address, his rank, the company, regiment, commanding officer of each; term of service, when and where enlisted and discharged, and forward the same to the First Secretary of the National Association of Veterans of the Mexican War: (Address, A. M. Kenaday, Lock Box No. 37, Washington, D. C.,) to enable him to prepare the rolls for the inspection of the Hon. Committees of Congress before the close of the present session, if possible. In this way only can a reliable estimate be arrived at for an appropriation; and it is confidently hoped, if our case is to be fairly considered and public sentiment regarded, that Congress will promptly vote an amount sufficient to cover the applications thus presented.

This plan has been submitted to General JAMES S. NEGLEY, who has charge of our bill in the House, and to General JOHN A. LOGAN, in the Senate, both of whom approve and commend to prompt and energetic action an honest and complete enrollment of every survivor, not already on the Pension Rolls, (of whom 6,525 were admitted to the Pension Rolls prior to 1861,) and the widows of our deceased comrades, where known, as the only feasible method of testing the accuracy of the Commissioner's calculations.

By order:

A. M. KENADAY, 1st Secretary, &c.

# PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

## National Association

OF

# Veterans of the Mexican War,

SECOND ANNUAL REUNION,

HELD IN

THE CITY OF WASHINGTON,

FEBRUARY 22D AND 23D, 1875,



COMPILED BY SECRETARY A. M. KENADAY.

WASHINGTON:  
JOHN H. CUNNINGHAM, PRINTER.  
1875.

## IMPORTANT CIRCULAR TO SURVIVORS OF THE WAR WITH MEXICO.

HEADQUARTERS NATIONAL ASSOCIATION  
VETERANS OF THE MEXICAN WAR.

Washington, D. C., April 4, 1874.

**COMRADES:** You are probably aware that an obstacle has been thrown in our way to immediate success in obtaining pensions for surviving Veterans of the Mexican War; one which calls for prompt and energetic action on the part of all who feel an interest in the work inaugurated by the late National Convention, and especially of the officers of State and County organizations.

The Hon. J. H. Baker, Commissioner of Pensions, in response to an inquiry by the Committee of Pensions of the House of Representatives, is reported to have submitted an estimate of the probable number of survivors who would be entitled to receive pensions under the bill now before Congress, in which it is reckoned that out of the 73,260 total enlistments from the beginning to the close of the war of 1846-48, there are still living, in 1874, some 39,000—considerably more than one-half of the whole number!

It would be idle for us to argue the question with the Honorable Commissioner, or attempt to controvert the figures of his arithmeticians, who are said to have worked out this problem on the basis of mortality tables used by Life Insurance Companies in calculating the "Expectation of Life," and other processes used in the Census Bureau—applicable, perhaps, to the population of a vast country in judging of its decrease by natural mortality, but not to the case in point. We might, perhaps, (outside of official circles,) urge with some degree of plausibility that the casualties of that war diminished the force engaged in it materially; and that the great prevalence of chronic diseases contracted in the unhealthy tropics by unacclimated men who had escaped the dangers of the battle-field, sadly thinned our ranks during the thirteen years immediately following the Mexican campaign; and also that in 1861, the martial spirit slumbering in the bosoms of most of those remaining, carried large numbers of them into the late civil war, where hardship and exposure to dangers and disease hurried to untimely graves so many younger and more robust men.

But these arguments, easily comprehended by ourselves, who can count upon our fingers the number of our immediate companions in the Mexican war still living, would have little, if any, weight against the estimates of the Pension Bureau over the official signature of its chief functionary.

Now, in the present humor of Congress in regard to the expenditure of public money, it would be thought next to madness to ask members to add unto the immense appropriations required to run the Pension Bureau, the enormous sum which Commissioner Baker thinks he will require to meet the demands of our bill; and the only course left for us to pursue, in order to arrive at the approximate number of survivors, is to make a THOROUGH CANVASS OF EVERY STATE AND TERRITORY of the Union, through the instrumentality of our town, county and State organizations, with the aid of our friends of the public press, (to whom we are already under lasting obligations) and enroll as soon as possible the name of every known survivor, or widow of a veteran of Mexico, the post office address, his rank, the company, regiment, commanding officer of each; term of service, when and where enlisted and discharged, and forward the same to the First Secretary of the National Association of Veterans of the Mexican War: (Address, A. M. Kenaday, Lock Box No. 37, Washington, D. C.,) to enable him to prepare the rolls for the inspection of the Hon. Committees of Congress before the close of the present session, if possible. In this way only can a reliable estimate be arrived at for an appropriation; and it is confidently hoped, if our case is to be fairly considered and public sentiment regarded, that Congress will promptly vote an amount sufficient to cover the applications thus presented.

This plan has been submitted to General JAMES S. NEGLEY, who has charge of our bill in the House, and to General JOHN A. LOGAN, in the Senate, both of whom approve and commend to prompt and energetic action an honest and complete enrollment of every survivor, not already on the Pension Rolls, (of whom 6,525 were admitted to the Pension Rolls prior to 1861,) and the widows of our deceased comrades, where known, as the only feasible method of testing the accuracy of the Commissioner's calculations.

By order:

A. M. KENADAY, 1st Secretary, &c.

# PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

## National Association

OF

# Veterans of the Mexican War,

## SECOND ANNUAL REUNION,

HELD IN

THE CITY OF WASHINGTON,

FEBRUARY 22D AND 23D, 1875,



COMPILED BY SECRETARY A. M. KENADAY.

WASHINGTON:  
JOHN H. CUNNINGHAM, PRINTER.  
1875.



# PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

## National Association

OF

# Veterans of the Mexican War,

## SECOND ANNUAL REUNION,

HELD IN

THE CITY OF WASHINGTON,

FEBRUARY 22D AND 23D, 1875,

CONTAINING

List of Delegates of 1874 and 1875; Officers of the Association; Reports of Officers and Committees; Transactions of the Past Year; Report of the Pension Committee; Interesting Correspondence Relative to the Dead in Mexico, &c.

COMPILED BY SECRETARY A. M. KENADAY.

WASHINGTON:

JOHN H. CUNNINGHAM, PRINTER.

1875.

## ORDER OF BUSINESS.

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1. At the appointed time the President shall take the chair and call the meeting to order.
2. Roll call of officers.
3. Appointment of Committee on Credentials and their Report.
4. Minutes of the preceding meeting read and disposed of.
5. Motions for and Appointment of Committees.
6. Reports of Standing Committees.
7. Unfinished Business.
8. Final Reports of Committees and action thereon.
9. Oration.
10. New business.
11. Election of Officers for ensuing year.
12. Anything for the good of the Association.
13. Adjournment.

## BRIEF HISTORY OF THE ORGANIZATION.

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On the 20th of February, 1873, in response to a call for a meeting of Mexican Veterans in Washington, to consider the propriety of joining as a body in the inaugural ceremonies of President GRANT, on the ensuing 4th of March, about twenty persons assembled. After agreeing to the proposition for which they had met, Mr. A. M. KENADAY, resident agent in Washington of the San Francisco Associated Veterans of the Mexican War, called attention of those present to the fact that the Scott Legion of Pittsburgh, Pa., had forwarded a petition to Congress for a pension to the survivors of the Mexican War, which had been presented by General NEGLEY, representative from that district. Mr. KENADAY moved that a committee on organization be appointed to prepare a plan of action to co-operate in the Pittsburgh project, which was adopted, and the mover of the resolution made chairman of the committee. On the 15th of April an address was printed by the chairman to the resident survivors of the Mexican War, appealing to their patriotic impulses to unite in an association, and combine their efforts to promote the welfare of their old comrades, which resulted in the organization of the "Associated Veterans of 1846" of this city, by electing, on the 1st of May, ensuing, the following officers :

<i>President,</i>	.	.	.	General J. W. DENVER,
<i>Vice Presidents,</i>	.	.	.	{ Major F. T. LALLY, General D. H. COOPER,
<i>Secretary,</i>	.	.	.	A. M. KENADAY,
<i>Treasurer,</i>	.	.	.	Colonel P. H. ALLABACH,
<i>Marshal,</i>	.	.	.	Major H. A. WHITE, Hon. J. J. MARTIN,
<i>Trustees,</i>	.	.	.	{ General ALBERT PIKE, Captain S. N. HOYT.

At the next meeting, on the 15th of May, 1873, Secretary KENADAY offered the following resolution, which passed unanimously :

*Resolved*, That an invitation is hereby extended by this association to the veterans of the Mexican war throughout the country, now organized or hereafter to be enrolled in associations, to send two or more delegates, in person or by proxy, to a national convention to be held in Washington City on January 15, 1874, to prepare a joint memorial to Congress for a pension to the survivors of the Mexican war, at the same rate allowed by the act of February 14, 1871, granting pensions to the soldiers and sailors of the war of 1812; also, to adopt measures looking to a National Brotherhood of the survivors, and a general assemblage on the occasion of the centennial anniversary of the nation's birthday, at Philadelphia, July 4, 1876.

The Secretary was instructed to communicate the plan to the then existing organizations, and take all proper measures to spread the information abroad. Through the liberality of the public press, the merits of the proposition were discussed far and wide, and almost immediately organizations began to spring into existence under the call.

On the 15th of January, 1874, the first National Convention assembled at Willard's Hall, in this city, and continued in session three days. Its proceedings were published in pamphlet form during last summer, and distributed throughout

## BRIEF HISTORY OF THE ORGANIZATION.

the country, containing a list of the Delegates; an oration by Hon J. S. Negley, of Pennsylvania; a poem, by Gen. Albert Pike, of Arkansas; the memorial of the Delegates to Congress for a pension to the survivors, and a bill for the proposed law; the Constitution and By-Laws of the National Association; the names of the officers elected, together with a circular issued from Headquarters, calling upon survivors to enroll in the National Register their names, post-office address, age and nativity, service in Mexico, names of company and regimental commanders, where and when enlisted and discharged, and whether they had received a land warrant (to indicate an honorable discharge.)

A similar form of enrollment is attached to this book, to which the attention of those who have not complied is respectfully invited.

The report (herein) of the First Secretary will show the result of the canvass.

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**NOTE** Those who desire a copy of the first proceedings can have the same mailed to their address by enclosing a twenty-five cent stamp to the Secretary, Lock Box 37, Washington, D. C., who has a limited number remaining on hand.

# Officers of the National Association.

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<i>President</i>	J. W. DENVER, Washington, D. C.
<i>First Vice President</i>	JOHN LOVE, Indianapolis, Ind.
<i>Secretary</i>	A. M. KENADAY, Lock Box 37, Washington, D. C.
<i>Marshal</i>	EDWIN R. BILES, Philadelphia, Pa.
<i>Financial Committee</i>	S. P. HEINTZLEMAN, (Maj. Gen. U. S. A.) S. V. NILES, Treasurer, Washington, D. C., M. D. MONTIS, Washington, D. C.

U. S. ARMY.—Chas. Thomas, Bvt. Maj. Genl. U. S. A., V. P., Washington; Benj. Alvord, Paymaster Genl. U. S. A., C. of A., Washington, D. C.

U. S. NAVY.—W. M. Wood, Surg. Genl., (retired,) V. P., Owings' Mills, Md.; Fabius Stanley, Rear Admiral U. S. Navy, C. of A., Washington D. C.

ALABAMA.—John R. Coffey, V. P., Fackler; A. J. Huggins, C. of A., Scottsborough.

ARKANSAS.—J. F. Fagan, V. P., Little Rock; Edward J. Brooks, C. of A., Fort Smith.

CALIFORNIA.—Richard P. Hammond, V. P., San Francisco; S. O. Houghton, C. of A., San Jose.

COLORADO.—S. N. Hoyt, V. P., Washington, D. C.; S. M. Logan, C. of A., Denver.

CONNECTICUT.—Levi Woodhouse, V. P., Hartford; Justin Hedges, C. of A., Riverside.

DIST. COLUMBIA.—J. W. Denver, V. P., Washington; Albert Pike, C. of A., Washington.

GEORGIA.—George S. Fisher, V. P., Augusta; David S. Johnston, C. of A., Madison.

ILLINOIS.—W. A. Richardson, V. P., Quincy; S. W. Smith, C. of A., Monmouth.

INDIANA.—Henry S. Lane, V. P., Crawfordsville; Mahlon D. Manson, C. of A., Crawfordsville.

IOWA.—L. W. Griffith, V. P., Des Moines; Josiah Given, C. of A., Des Moines.

KANSAS.—E. N. O. Clough, V. P., Leavenworth; J. R. McClure, C. of A., Junction City.

KENTUCKY.—W. T. Ward, V. P., Louisville; T. W. Campbell, C. of A., Bowling Green.

LOUISIANA.—G. Mason Graham, V. P., Alexandria; P. O. Hebert, C. of A., New Orleans.

MARYLAND.—Joseph H. Ruddoch, V. P., Baltimore; John T. Gray, C. of A., Baltimore.

MASSACHUSETTS.—Isaac H. Wright, V. P., Boston; Stephen Hoyt, C. of A., Salem.

MICHIGAN.—Thomas B. W. Stockton, V. P., Flint; Wm. P. Wilkins, C. of A., Detroit.

MINNESOTA.—W. A. Gorman, V. P., St. Paul; Francis Peteler, C. of A., Minneapolis.

MISSISSIPPI.—Beverly Matthews, V. P., Columbus; Claiborne Farrish, C. of A., Woodville.

MISSOURI.—L. C. Easton, V. P.; St. Louis; Jonas Clark, C. of A., Chillicothe.

NEVADA.—W. W. McCoy, V. P., Eureka; W. Frank Stewart, C. of A., Virginia City.

NEW HAMPSHIRE.—T. P. Pierce, V. P., Nashua; George Bowers, C. of A., do.

NEW JERSEY.—Chas. Bowers, V. P., Newark; James E. Nutman, C. of A., do.

NEW YORK.—W. Linn Tidball, V. P., New York; Wm. Colligan, C. of A., do.

NORTH CAROLINA.—O. R. Smith, V. P., Raleigh; E. Cantwell, C. of A., Wilmington.

OHIO.—George W. Morgan, V. P., Mount Vernon; C. N. Allen, C. of A., Steubenville.

OREGON.—E. Hamilton, V. P., Portland; John W. Eagan, C. of A., do.

PENNSYLVANIA.—Robert Klotz, V. P., Mauch Chunk; C. F. Sargent, C. of A., Philadelphia.

RHODE ISLAND.—A. E. Burnside, V. P., The Capital; Nelson Viall, C. of A., Providence.

SOUTH CAROLINA.—R. G. M. Dunovant, V. P., Edgefield; W. B. Stanley, C. of A., Columbia.

TENNESSEE.—Gideon J. Pillow, V. P., Memphis; Leon Truesdale, C. of A., Nashville.

TEXAS.—S. B. Maxey, V. P., The Capital; G. H. Giddings, C. of A., Brenham.

VIRGINIA.—Robert G. Scott, V. P., Richmond; B. D. Harmon, C. of A., Staunton.

WASHINGTON TER.—James Tilton, V. P., Seattle; Granville O. Haller, C. of A., Conopeville.

WEST VIRGINIA.—G. A. Porterfield, V. P., Charles town; N. N. Hoffman, C. of A., Morgantown.

WISCONSIN.—A. A. Meredith, V. P., Madison; C. R. Johnson, C. of A., Black River Falls.

## Secretaries.

A. M. Kenaday, Washington, D. C.

## ASSISTANTS.

1st. W. L. Schley, Baltimore, Md.

2d. J. F. Huber, Louisville, Ky.

3d. H. A. McGlenen, Boston, Mass.

4th. W. T. Hall, ——, Mo.

## Treasurer.

S. V. Niles, Washington, D. C.

## Marshal.

E. R. Biles, Philadelphia, Pa.

# List of Delegates by States, &c.,

FOR

## CONVENTIONS OF 1874 AND 1875.

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ALABAMA .....	1874—A. J. Huggins and J. J. Martin. 1875—J. J. Martin.
ARKANSAS .....	1874—Albert Pike and Willard Ayres. 1875—James F. Fagan, Edward J. Brooks, John D. Adams and Albert Pike.
CALIFORNIA .....	1874—J. E. Nuttman, S. O. Houghton, A. M. Kenaday, J. C. Hays, Thomas Kuipe, J. D. Stevenson, G. W. Bowie, Brant Seguline, Joseph P. Daniels, Richard P. Hammond, William Piper, William Blanding, A. J. Shrader, D. Scannell and H. E. Van Guestifield. 1875—S. O. Houghton, A. A. Greene, J. E. Nuttman, A. M. Kenaday.
COLORADO .....	1874—S. N. Hoyt and S. M. Logan 1875—Same delegation.
CONNECTICUT .....	1874—Justin Hodges, Levi Woodhouse and D. N. Couch. 1875—Nelson Viall.
GEORGIA .....	1874—David S. Johnston, E. L. Thomas, H. J. Sargent, George S. Fisher and C. W. Styles. 1875—A. M. Kenaday, (proxy for D. S. Johnston,) General W. S. Walker and Dr. S. P. Hunt.
ILLINOIS .....	1874—M. L. Paine and L. Guinnip. 1875—C. H. Kettler, S. W. Smith, J. G. Fonda and A. M. Kenaday, (proxy.)
INDIANA .....	1874—John Osborn, Thos. Morton, F. K. Tykle, H. S. Lane, M. D. Manson and W. W. Bradley. 1875—John Love, Henry S. Lane, M. D. Manson, J. W. Mickels; and the following who failed to arrive: General McNaught, J. A. Cravens, John Osborne, Thomas Bringhurst, B. F. Spooner, Hiram Reemer, John M. Lord, Ira Williamson, Judge Carlton, David A. McClure, W. W. Toohey, B. F. Scribner, Scott Carter, M. Fitzgibbon, N. Berry, S. Wallace, DeWitt C. Thomas and Thomas Spicely.
IOWA .....	1874—I. W. Griffith, M. M. Trumbull, Michael Donohue, B. W. Wilson, W. L. Church and S. R. Edgington.
KANSAS .....	1874—E. N. O. Clough. 1875—Robt. B. Mitchell, S. W. Johnson, (proxy for E. N. O. Clough,) J. R. McClure.
KENTUCKY .....	1874—W. T. Ward, E. C. Berry, J. P. Williams, J. J. Halsey, W. W. Bradley, J. F. Huber, C. D. Pennebaker. 1875—T. W. Campbell and C. D. Pennebaker.
LOUISIANA .....	1874—P. O. Hebert, J. R. West, U. S. S., G. Mason Graham, Harry T. Hays, J. B. Walton, George Baldy, J. B. Vandergriff, A. G. Blanchard and S. D. Allis. 1875—P. O. Hebert, J. C. Downter and Joseph Mollere.
MAINE .....	1875—Wm. R. Hawkins.
MARYLAND .....	1874—J. H. Ruddach, W. L. Schley, Oden Bowie, John T. Gray, John R. Onion, Lewis F. Beeler, T. J. Goodrich, Cornelius Brown, William Harcourt, William Howard and H. Webster. 1875—J. H. Ruddach, W. L. Schley, Oden Bowie, Simon Ambach, J. G. Fury, W. H. Fury, John T. Gray, W. B. Howard, W. G. Lee, Wm. B. Howard, David G. Murray, H. Webster, John R. Onion, S. M. Morse, L. F. Beeler, Cornelius Brown, Thomas J. Goodrich, W. Harcourt and S. B. Doyle.
MASSACHUSETTS	1874—William Hurd, H. A. McGlenen and Isaac H. Wright. 1875—H. A. McGlenen, (N. P. Viall, proxy,) and E. A. Paul.
MICHIGAN .....	1874—A. M. Kenaday, (J. P. Howlett, proxy,) J. N. A. L. Simonds, Charles P. Kimball and E. R. Merrifield. 1875—Alpheus S. Williams, Ho. of Reps., Henry Waldron, do., and W. R. Wilkins.
MINNESOTA .....	1874—W. A. Gorman, Francis Peteler, C. DeMontreville and A. R. French. 1875—A. R. French.
MISSISSIPPI .....	1874—Douglas H. Cooper, John S. Hope, Beverly Matthews and N. S. Reneau. 1875—D. H. Cooper and John E. Hope.
MISSOURI .....	1874—Jonas J. Clark, J. W. Denver, James Shields and A. W. Doniphan. 1875—James Craig, John W. Polk and W. W. Ivy.
NEVADA .....	1874—J. F. Ray, W. W. McCoy, W. Frank Stewart and Chas. Getzler, (dec'd.)

**N. HAMPSHIRE**....1874—George Bowers and T. P. Pierce.

**NEW JERSEY**....1874—J. E. Nuttman and Charles F. Bowers.  
1875—J. E. Nuttman.

**NEW YORK**....1874—Wm. Linn Tidball, R. P. Noah, Francis E. Pinto, Addison Farnsworth, Francis D. Clark, Thomas W. Sweeny, U. S. A., Charles K. Graham, Henry Roscoe, Wm. Wade, Wm. Colligan, F. W. Seagrist, Charles N. Denman, A. W. Adams, H. G. Gibson, U. S. A., J. H. H. Ward, J. C. Marriot and S. C. Rowan.  
1875—Wm. Linn Tidball, William Colligan, A. W. Adams, W. J. Gary, James S. Dawson. The following were appointed but did not arrive: Gen. T. W. Sweeny and Gen. H. Gates Gibson, U. S. A., Rear Admiral Henry Walker, U. S. N., J. H. H. Ward, C. K. Graham, Francis E. Pinto, Addison Farnsworth, Wm. W. Tompkins, James M. Turner, G. W. Leonard, J. C. Marriot, Henry Roscoe, Wm. Wade, Jeremiah Sherwood, F. W. Seagrist, Francis D. Clark, C. Edward Pillet.

**NOR. CAROLINA**....1874—Edward Cantwell, O. R. Smith, John A. Fagg, S. S. Pyatt

**OHIO**.....1874—Dr. J. M. Todd, Wm. B. Howard (proxy for Hon. W. I. Southard.)  
1875—J. W. Denver.

**OREGON**.....1874—James Tilton, Granville O. Haller, R. H. Milroy, H. R. Crosby, S. P. Moses.  
1875—James Tilton, Washington, D. C.

**PENNSYLVANIA**....1874—Gen. George Cadwalader, President: E. R. Biles, Chauncey F. Sargent, George Moore, J. J. OsVandal, Wm. J. Mackey, Robert Klotz, of Scott Legion, Philadelphia; Abijah Ferguson, Wm. Kennedy, C. B. Mowry, John W. Hague, Ed. O'Brien, Maurice Wallace, W. H. Barker, Alex. Hay, James T. Sample, G. W. Gibbs, W. H. Hope, of Pittsburgh, Scott Legion; Robert Klotz, George A. H. Blake, U. S. A., Alex. Montgomery, U. S. A., John Solomon, R. McDonald, F. B. Kaercher, Z. E. Barnes, Richard J. Crozier, John A. Blair, Wm. Williams, John M. Clark, J. T. Sample, J. Q. A. Young, James H. Rose, James Shaw, John Kilpatrick, R. McMichael, Louis H. Wunder, John Priestly.  
1875—E. R. Biles, C. F. Sargent, A. H. Reynolds, Robert Klotz, Thomas R. Crelin, John E. Arthur, John Kilpatrick, John A. Cummings. The following delegates appointed from Reading failed to arrive: Richard McMichael, Levi P. Knerr, Lewis H. Wunder, John Priestly.

**RHODE ISLAND**....1875—Nelson Viall.

**SOU. CAROLINA**....1874—K. J. Billings, T. J. Mackey, Wm. B. Stanley, James D. Blanding, R. G. M. Dunnovant, J. B. Kershaw, C. W. Styles, Samuel McGowan, Elias Earle, C. S. Kirkland, J. H. Williams.  
1875—T. J. Mackey, Henry C. Hack. The following additional delegates appointed by the Palmetto Association, failed to arrive: R. G. M. Dunnovant, Samuel McGowan, G. W. Curtis, E. M. Gilbert, A. M. Manigault, Sebastian Sunter, J. B. Kershaw, M. L. Bonham, Wm. B. Stanley.

**TENNESSEE**....1874—R. J. Hays, W. J. Smith, General N. S. Reneau, George McPherson, Gideon J. Pillow, Joseph Cooper.  
1875—W. J. Smith.

**TEXAS**.....1874—Andrew J. Dorn, S. B. Maxey, Albert Pike, Elias M. Greene.  
1875—G. H. Giddings, Elias M. Greene.

**VIRGINIA**.....1874—Robert G. Scott, Patrick Hart, Robert Reid, M. W. Strother, J. B. Laurens, John Poe, Wm. B. Taliaferro, R. W. Brown, B. D. Harman, Thomas B. Tombs, John Boncher, J. H. Whittlesey, M. D. Corse, F. H. Archer, James C. Taylor, L. M. Shumaker, J. Richard Llewellyn, John H. Cooke, Robert Pegrain, P. A. Peterson, A. P. Bennet, P. D. Sutton, B. F. Wingfield, C. H. Farrell, W. H. Pleasants, C. G. Morrill, J. B. Hoggden, R. W. Brown, S. C. Curry, L. C. Leonard, C. R. Jones, Samuel Crawford, A. R. Shands, M. M. Anderson.  
1875—B. D. Harman, P. Hart, Robert Reid, L. M. Shumaker, Thomas P. Morris, Richard O'Dowd, M. D. Corse, Robert Dyer. The delegation of 1875 were renominated by the President of the State Association, Rob't G. Scout, but failed to arrive with the exceptions above. Also the following appointed by the Norfolk Association: J. F. Milligan, S. P. Quackenbush, U. S. N., George W. Jennings, John D. Simms, B. F. Peddle, John Fullerton.

**WEST VIRGINIA**....1874—G. A. Porterfield, John Ávis, N. N. Hoffman, J. C. Briggs.  
1875—N. N. Hoffman, M. L. Dorn, Andrew R. Potts.

**WISCONSIN**....1874—A. A. Meredith, C. R. Johnson, Otis Hoyt.

**WASH. TER.**....1874—Granville O. Haller.  
1875—James Tilton.

**U. S. ARMY**....1874—General W. T. Sherman, Major General Irvin McDowell, General Benjamin Alvord, General Thomas G. Pitcher, General Charles Thomas, Colonel Alex. Montgomery, Major T. J. Eckerson.  
1875—Maj. Gen. Samuel P. Heintzelman, Major General Charles Thomas, Brig. Gen. Thomas G. Pitcher, Brig. Gen. Benjamin Alvord, Col. Alexander Montgomery, Captain S. G. Greene.

**U. S. NAVY**....1874—Surgeon General Wm. W. Wood, (retired,) Major A. J. Dallas, U. S. A., (Passed Midshipman, 1847,) J. W. Davis, (seaman.)

## LIST OF DELEGATES BY STATES, &C.

U. S. NAVY....1875—Rear Admiral Fabius Stanley, Major A. J. Dallas, U. S. A., J. W. Davis, (Rear Admiral Henry Walke, appointed from New York; and Capt. S. P. Quackenbush, with ex-Midshipman James F. Milligan, from Norfolk, failed to arrive.)

DIST. OF COL...1875—The Associated Veterans of 1846, of Washington, D. C., were, by resolution of that body, made delegates to the Convention, as follows: ✓ President, J. W. Denver; Vice Presidents, Follett T. Lalley, Robert B. Mitchell; Recording and Corresponding Secretary, Alexander M. Kenaday; Treasurer, Simpson P. Moses; Marshal, A. R. French; Trustees, J. J. Martin, Albert Pike, S. N. Hoyt. Comrades: Alonzo W. Adams, William Alexander, Benjamin Alvord, Peter H. Allbach, William Anderson, Edward Atkins, Willard Ayers, S. S. G. Barbour, Z. E. Barnes, Charles Becker, Constantine A. Blanchard, Michael B. Bowles, John Brannan, John G. Brayman, James Bremner, Thomas Bridges, Edward Byrne, Edward C. Carrington, John Carter, Joshua Clark, Samuel Clark, Theodore Clifton, Douglas H. Cooper, Joseph B. Collins, Thomas Croggin, Henry R. Crosby, Howard M. Cole, A. J. Dallas, J. W. Davis, Isaiah Dean, Wm. H. Degges, Addison Dent, J. A. Doyle, Dominic Duffy, Thomas Dwyer, J. C. Downer, T. J. Eckerson, James Ellis, Patrick H. English, Hamilton G. Fant, Charles W. Gordon, Patrick Gormley, Samuel M. Gouverneur, Theodore Gregg, Albert Gruber, R. J. Hays, H. B. Hensley, N. N. Hoffman, Sherman O. Houghton, Stephen Hoyt, A. J. Hurdle, S. P. Heintzelman, Henry Ingle, David Jackson, S. W. Johnson, Thomas Johnson, Edward Johannes, Charles Kloman, J. C. Kretschmar, Fred. A. Klopfer, Joshua Lloyd, John H. Locke, Christopher Long, John T. Lynch, Edward Lander, Joseph M. McCauley, James McDonough, Irvin McDowell, George W. McLane, George McPherson, Robert F. Martin, Hugh Masterson, Squire G. Merrill, J. B. Merritt, Joseph Mollere, Mahlon D. Montis, Alexander Montgomery, Samuel Montgomery, John Myers, Thomas P. Morris, Samuel V. Niles, Maurice O'Connor, Richard O'Dowd, Edward A. Paul, Thomas G. Pitcher, Samuel A. Pitts, Charles D. Pennebaker, George A. Porterfield, Bennett M. Reese, John Roach, N. H. Robbins, Benjamin S. Roberts, George Roberts, Henry B. Robertson, Andrew Russell, H. J. Sargent, William Tecumseh Sherman, H. H. Sibley, Daniel Smith, Theodore Sniffen, Stark B. Taylor, John H. Thompson, John Thompson, John M. Thornton, Benjamin R. West, George F. White, H. A. White, Marcellus Wilson, John Wood—122.

PROCEEDINGS  
OF THE  
NATIONAL ASSOCIATION  
OF  
VETERANS OF THE MEXICAN WAR.

FIRST DAY-MONDAY.

WASHINGTON, D. C., *February 22, 1875.*

At 12 o'clock, meridian, all the officers present of the National Association, elected at the meeting of January 17, 1874, and the various delegations from abroad, convened at the Opera House, (popularly known as Willard's Hall,) which had been tastefully decorated by Col. P. H. Alabach, chairman of the Hall Committee, with retired regimental colors and battle flags, belonging to the War Department, which had been kindly loaned by its officers for the occasion. Some of these sacred reliques were in a good state of preservation, while others bore evidence of rough usage in the deadly conflicts through which they had passed, upheld by brave hands. They admirably typified the assemblage of veterans who had, after a lapse of many years, again assembled beneath their folds, to deliberate on measures for the welfare of their old comrades.

Some delay necessarily occurred in enrolling the names of delegates, the majority of whom arrived in the city by the morning trains, but at 12:30 General J. W. Denver, First Vice President, called the meeting to order, and announced that General George Cadwalader, the President of the National Association, had not yet arrived.

By invitation, the Rev. H. A. Cleveland, pastor of the Foundry Methodist Episcopal Church, opened the proceedings by invoking a blessing from the Supreme Being on the objects of the meeting.

Vice President DENVER then warmly welcomed the delegates to the city, and expressed his gratification at seeing so many of those who had participated in the Convention a year ago again present, proving their interest and earnestness in a cause which was based on patriotism and philanthropy, and said he believed that their work, if guided by intelligence and supported by harmonious action, must lead to good results in the near future.

He then directed the First Secretary, Mr. A. M. KENADAY, to call the roll of officers of the Association, and invited such of them as were present to seats on the stage. Nineteen of the officers responded when their names were called.

Maj. W. J. GARY, of New York, asked for the appointment of a Committee on Credentials.

The CHAIR suggested, as an economy of time, that each delegate present enroll his name with the Secretary, to be by him compared with authorizations on file, forwarded by the different organizations. Carried.

Maj. W. J. GARY, of New York, moved the appointment of a committee of one from each State and Territory and the army and navy, to nominate committees and officers. Not agreed to.

Col. W. LOUIS SCHLEY, of Maryland, moved that the Association proceed to the election of officers for the ensuing year. Not agreed to.

Maj. W. J. GARY, New York, moved to adjourn. Not agreed to.

Gen. JOHN LOVE, of Indiana, moved that when we adjourn to-day, it be till Tuesday, at 11 o'clock a. m., when the address of the orator selected by the last Convention would be heard, the necessary officers appointed, and the Association proceed to the Executive Mansion in a body to pay their respects to the President of the United States. Adopted.

The CHAIR appointed Col. W. Louis Schley, of Md., Hon. J. J. Martin, Ala., and Gen. M. D. Manson, Ind., a committee to wait upon the President of the United States, to ascertain at what time he would be pleased to receive the Association.

Maj. W. J. GARY, N. Y., again revived his motion to appoint a committee to nominate officers.

Gen. E. R. BILES, Penn., reminded the mover that the assemblage was not an unorganized convention, but the first meeting of the National Association since the present officers were elected. He called for the reading of the minutes.

The reading of the minutes, on a subsequent motion, was dispensed with, and pamphlets containing the proceedings were distributed to the members.

Col. ROBERT KLOTZ, Vice President, of Pennsylvania, arose and said: COMRADES.—I have heard suggestions from the delegates from New York and Maryland, and others, but their motions appear to my mind to have either a political aspect or a tendency to Buncombe. If I understand the object for which we have assembled here, it is to press our claim before the Congressional committees and the Pension Bureau, for a pension to our old, infirm, poor and needy veterans. We have patiently waited for over a quarter of a century for the gratitude of a Republic which gained so much by the prowess of our little army in that memorable conflict, in the way of national reputation, that foreign governments applauded our successes—leaving out of the question the vast domain acquired, that has saved us financially ever since. And yet our old comrades, who were instrumental in bringing about these great results, are apparently forgotten in the general distribution of favors by the Government. I am the last man to cry out in opposition to the pensioned soldiers of the late war; but while they have been well taken care of in past years—have lately been voted very large appropriations, hundreds of millions of dollars—yet we are here begging Congress to do us simple justice, and the only excuse they make is that “there are too many of us!” One Senator, in high standing, says “we received a land warrant,” (worth from \$80 to \$120,) “and that is enough!” I see some comrades here, like myself, who have been three or four or even more days from home, and who are anxious to get to business, and who don’t care for show or notoriety, but wish to accomplish the thing we were called together for. I see here Gov. Hebert, of New Orleans, Generals Lane and Love, from Indiana, Judge Mackey, of South Carolina, Colonel Tidball, of New York, Gen. Heintzelman, Gen. Pitcher, Major Dallas, and Major Montgomery, of the regular army, and many other eminent gentlemen, whom I would like to hear from on this subject. [Applause.]

Hon. T. J. MACKEY, C. of A., South Carolina, was next called on. After returning thanks for the courtesy of calling on him to address the meeting, he referred to the services of the Palmetto regiment in the Mexican war, and said the survivors numbered only 47 out of 1,150 men, who left South Carolina for the war. He spoke of the pleasant relations existing between ex-Union and ex-Confederate soldiers in his State, and related an incident which occurred in South Carolina last spring, soon after the adjournment of our first Convention, where a number of ex-Confederates disinterred the remains of several Union soldiers, who had, during the war, been hastily buried by the roadside and forgotten, reverentially escorting them to a military post cemetery, where they now repose with their comrades, and are carefully tended by appointed agents of the Government. This act of generous magnanimity had elicited the warmest encomiums, not only from the relatives of the deceased Union soldiers, but from many public men and officials in the North who had heard of the incident. He referred to this fact with pride, and thought it would be the means of procuring a unity of sentiment among the American people, and make them dear to one another. The meetings of the National Association of Mexican Veterans would contribute to this coveted end. He was the only one present from his State out of six delegates elected to the Convention; he was authorized to act fully for them, and closed by saying he would do all in his power for the promotion of the object aimed at.

At the conclusion of these addresses a better state of feeling was apparent.

Maj. W. J. GARY withdrew his motions in regard to appointment of committees, &c.

A dispatch from Col. D. S. Johnston, President Georgia State Association, sending greetings was read. Also, letters from H. A. McGlenen, Boston; Gen. G. Mason Graham, Alexandria, La.; Capt. James Spore, St. Louis, Mo.; Maj. F. D. Clark, New York; E. W. Shands, Austin, Texas; S. W. Smith, Monmouth, Ill.; Maj. C. H. Kettler, Belleville, Illinois; Hon. C. R. Johnson, Black River Falls, Wis.; J. Benj. Chandler, New Orleans; Col. J. T. Curtis, Troy, Ohio; John H. Eagan, Portland, Oregon; Capt. Robert G. Scott, Richmond, Va.; J. F. Milligan, Norfolk, Va.; Hon. Levi Woodhouse, Hartford, Conn.; Hon. T. W. Freelon, Santa Barbara, Cal.; Dr. C. De Montreville, St. Paul, Minn.; E. N. O. Clough, Leavenworth, Kansas; J. W. Van Guestifield, San Francisco, Cala.; Col. G. A. Porterfield, Charlestown, W. Va., and others, all active friends of the cause.

Col. ROBERT KLOTZ moved that a committee be appointed to audit the accounts of the Secretary and Treasurer, and to make a report to the Association. Adopted; and Col. Klotz, Major A. J. Dallas, U. S. A., and M. D. Montis, Esq., of Third Auditor's office, were appointed said committee.

The committee appointed to wait upon the President of the United States now reported that his Excellency would receive the members of the Association in the East Room of the Executive Mansion, to-morrow, at 11 o'clock a. m.

Gov. P. O. Hebert (who commanded the 14th Infantry in Mexico, and was distinguished for gallantry at Molino del Rey and Chepultepec) was called up, and responded briefly to the compliment.

#### REPORT OF TRANSACTIONS AT HEADQUARTERS OF THE ASSOCIATION.

Gen. J. W. DENVER, First Vice President, submitted a report of the work performed at the Headquarters of the Association, at Washington, substantially as follows:

The memorial and bill adopted by the Convention of the 15th January, 1874, were engrossed in duplicate, and presented (in the Senate by Hon. John A. Logan, of Illinois, and in the House by Hon. J. S. Negley, of Pennsylvania) within a few days after the adjournment of the Convention. The matter was referred to the pension committees of the respective Houses. The House committee soon afterwards called upon the Commissioner of Pensions for information as to the number of survivors. The Commissioner fixed the number at about 39,000. The effect of this extravagant report from a Government officer produced a marked change in the enthusiasm of our friends in Congress, and was evidently designed and calculated to discourage further efforts at organization. The First Secretary, however, prepared a circular to meet the emergency, and sent it broadcast over the country, with a view to obtain facts to controvert the Commissioner's estimate. The success attending this action will be shown in the Secretary's report.

The Washington Association appointed a committee this winter to urge action by the Committee on Invalid Pensions, at an early period of the session. They waited on Gen. Rusk, chairman of the House committee, who promised a hearing on the 12th of January, of any statistics or arguments in favor of the bill. In order to make up a case, the Secretary of the National Association was called on by me for a report, which was printed and submitted to the Pension Committee, together with oral arguments by various members, at the time indicated. The following is

#### SECRETARY KENADAY'S REPORT.

WASHINGTON, D. C., January 9, 1875.

*Gen. J. W. Denver, First Vice President National Association Veterans of the Mexican War:*

GENERAL: In regard to your request to be furnished such information as I have collected during the year, having reference to the petition of the National Convention held in this city last January, asking from the people's representatives in Congress a pension to the survivors of the army and navy who served in the war with Mexico, I have the honor to report that, soon after the adjournment of the Convention, when all interested felt assured that Congress would promptly comply with the just request of the large body of distinguished officers and soldiers who had journeyed hither at great personal expense, from all sections of the nation in order to give a united expression to the prayer in behalf of their old companions in arms, there sud-

dently and unexpectedly appeared in the local press the announcement that the Commissioner of Pensions had submitted an estimate to the Committee of Invalid Pensions, to whom, under the rules, our petition had been referred by the House of Representatives, stating the probable number of survivors, out of 73,260 volunteers, at some 39,000, accompanied by a fearful array of figures, purporting to show the aggregate expenditure in dollars and cents during the next twenty years under the proposed law, that were calculated, and apparently intended to deter the most generous of our friends in Congress from advocating the measure during the retrenchment mania which prevailed at the last session.

While many of the old gentlemen who had indulged the hope of a successful result to their Washington pilgrimage, returned to their distant homes sadly disappointed and discouraged—those who had been selected by the Convention to remain here and look after the interests of their comrades immediately commenced operations of a practical character, with a view to counteract the sophistical estimate prepared by the Pension Commissioner's arithmeticians. The problem had evidently been worked out by some Civil Service expert who assumed that the mortality tables used by Life Insurance companies in calculating the "Expectation of Life," and similar processes adopted sometimes by census bureaus to ascertain the probable decrease of vast populations by purely natural causes, were applicable to the case in point. These methods of computation may be very safe in making up estimates for appropriations, but it will hardly be contended that they constitute an "exact science." For every practical man familiar with the history of our country knows that the ordinary casualties and desertions during the war with Mexico largely reduced the number who would be eligible to a pension, while the almost universal prevalence of chronic diseases, contracted by unacclimated and imprudent young men in the unhealthy tropics, sadly thinned the ranks of those who escaped the dangers of the battle-fields of Mexico.

In addition to the potent influences working their decimation above indicated, the facts are well known that vast numbers sought, after their return from Mexico, new excitement in every field of adventure that presented itself. Very many of our old comrades fell victims to the chivalric and roving dispositions begotten of their military service, in the warlike affairs occurring in Yucatan, Cuba, Lower California, Sonora, and Nicaragua.

The gold and silver discoveries in the far western possessions of the country—acquired by their valor from the Mexican Republic—also attracted many of the survivors to the Pacific Slope, where they served as pioneers of the civilization now developing that golden empire; and who in their progress thither blazed the timber of these unexplored regions, to mark the paths which have since become easy highways to the present generation.

Lastly, the terrible quarrel in our national family, now happily ended, which called into active service the old and the young, found nearly all the survivors of Mexico, who could report for duty, at the front, on one side or the other, where their military experience and training soon made them eminent as officers or terminated their earthly career. Many of those who carried muskets in the Mexican war were found worthy to command brigades and divisions in the late struggle, while several of our young lieutenants of that period, profiting by their experience in Mexico, have been exalted to the highest pinnacles of military renown.

(And it is proper to note, in this connection, to the honor of those distinguished officers, that they are, almost to a man, in hearty sympathy—and many of them in active co-operation—with this movement in behalf of their old followers and comrades, still struggling with adversity, who are left in their old age without even the privilege of asylum in the Soldiers' Home, which noble institution, by the way, was established mainly by money collected from a conquered people, as tribute to the valor of the army in Mexico, and its fund has since swollen to gigantic proportions under the fostering care of the Commissioners of the Home. With the pension proposed, all who served in Mexico will be entitled to admission, by turning in their pensions to the Home fund. As the case now stands, only those who served continuously for twenty years, or who were disabled in the line of duty, are eligible to admission.)\*

But returning to our Pension Commissioner's estimate. The convention of last January, before adjournment, organized a national association, as suggested in the call, with a vice president and a council of administration in each of the States and Territories. To these, and to every known subordinate body, a circular letter was addressed from the headquarters in this city explanatory of the obstacles raised up by the Pension Bureau, and urging energetic action on the part of all who felt an interest in the subject, with a view to making a thorough canvass of every State and Territory in the Union, through the instrumentality of State, County, and town organizations. There were printed for distribution here 17,000 of these circulars, and 4,000 copies of a pamphlet containing an account of the convention proceedings. In Kentucky, Indiana, and Texas, large editions of the circular were reprinted and circulated. Earnest appeal was made to the press throughout the Union to give the subject the widest circulation, which was most generously responded to. With the aid of a copy of Rowell & Co.'s Newspaper Directory, the undersigned was enabled to direct these circulars to every county newspaper in the new Territories, and also to the principal papers in each county of the several States which sent any considerable number of troops to Mexico. Many of the circulars have been returned to me with the information called for in the blanks, from the remotest quarters of the country. State conventions have been held since this movement began in Texas, Indiana, Illinois, Missouri, Ohio, Tennessee, Alabama, Georgia, North Carolina, Virginia, Kentucky, and elsewhere, at which concerted action was taken to obtain the address of every known comrade. I feel safe in asserting that the subject has been discussed in every city, town, village, or hamlet in the Union, where a surviving veteran of Mexico resides.

The number thus far obtained by these means indicates very clearly that the methods of

\*[NOTE.—Senate Executive Document No. 34, Forty-first Congress, Second Session, gives the history of the founding of the "Soldiers' Home," and the Report of the Commissioners therein shows that \$182,047.78, which properly belonged to the soldiers serving in Mexico, was the basis of this princely estate, now controlled exclusively by the Adjutant General, the Surgeon General, and the Commissary General of the Army. The sum above named, with compound interest to date, would equitably entitle the surviving soldiers of Mexico, regular and volunteer, to admission to its hospitable walls for the balance of their existence on earth.]

calculating the survivors of the Mexican war adopted by the statisticians of the Pension Bureau are totally inapplicable. I will state the result, and quote the views of several distinguished officers and intelligent soldiers, selected from an abundance of such testimony forwarded to me as Secretary of the National Association, and respectfully suggest that you leave to the honorable Committee of Pensions to estimate, in the light of the facts submitted, the probable number of survivors who have failed to respond through indifference, or from ignorance of the fact that the National Association desired their names for preservation in the register.

## THE RETURNS.

Whole number of returned circulars, with information required for the National Register (to wit: Name, age, address, company, regimental commanders, &c.)	1,325	Leavenworth, K., Association	52
Washington, D. C., Association	117	Arkansas, State, do	219
Belleville, Ill., do	196	California, do	204
		Louisiana, do	238
		13th Cong. dist., O., do	44
		West Virginia, do	17
		Monmouth, Ill., do	137

Also, through various channels of information, returns have been rendered which are not sufficiently explicit in details for entry of the names in the National Register without further correspondence with each person named, to wit:

Baltimore Asso'n, names only reported	156	Memphis, Tennessee	56
New York " " "	38	Pontiac, Illinois	66
Philadelphia " " "	42	Louisville, Kentucky	79
Richmond " " "	30	Virginia City, Nevada	26
Norfolk " " "	70	Santa Barbara, California	14
Jacksonville, Alabama	30	Eureka, Nevada	11
Warsaw, Missouri	11	St. Louis, Missouri	66
Oregon and Washington Territory	54	St. Paul, Minnesota	70
Boston, Massachusetts	80	Indiana State Association	106
Austin, Texas	306	Wisconsin State Association	105
Bonham, Texas	16	Reading, Pennsylvania	30

## RECAPITULATION.

Complete for registry as members of the National Association	2,549
Eligible to membership on forwarding military record	1,512

Total of names and address 4,061

The above includes survivors and widows, and all who were allowed by Congress a land warrant for service in Mexico. Very many of those whose names have been forwarded by secretaries have also personally forwarded their record of services; but the exact number thus duplicated cannot be arrived at without great labor, which I have not had time to bestow upon that point on account of a multitude of other duties connected with my position (some idea of the extent of which may be inferred from the distribution of the large edition of circulars and pamphlets, besides receiving and taking more or less action upon nearly 3,000 letters during the year, occupying all the time I could spare from my daily avocation.) I think I may hazard the assertion that 3,500, in round numbers, will cover all the names now in my possession.

Without presuming to express an opinion of my own as to the number of survivors, I respectfully invite attention to the following extract from a letter of General George W. Morgan, who commanded the 13th Army Corps in the late war, and who was brevetted a brigadier general in the regular army during the war with Mexico.

His letter was read at the Ohio State Convention, held at Dayton on the 15th of December, and I regret that space will not permit me to incorporate the whole of this distinguished officer's remarks in my report. He says:

"After the most rest reflection, it is my conviction, comrades, that of the men who served with us on the fields of Mexico, less than six thousand are alive to-day. There were battles, such as Buena Vista, Churubusco, and Molino del Rey, (the bloodiest of them all,) where, of the actual force engaged, of some of the regiments, more than one-third were stretched dead, or wounded on the ground. Thousands perished with arms in their hands; many more thousands were buried from the hospitals, and a still greater number lingered and died after reaching their homes, from diseases contracted in that far off land. \* \* \* Of the field officers of the 2d Ohio, two of the three, and of the 15th regulars, three of the four are dead. Of two full companies sent from Knox county only eight survivors are known, and it is probable that the same proportion will hold good as to all the troops sent from this State, and it may be asserted with safety that not more than eight out of every hundred of the army of Mexico are now alive."

In a subsequent letter, dated December 18, General Morgan reiterates the opinion that of those who actually served in Mexico not more than 6,000 are alive to-day.

Colonel Ferris Foreman, who commanded the 3d Illinois in Mexico, wrote to Secretary S. W. Smith, of the Illinois State Association, as early in the canvass as May last, as follows:

"Of the company raised by me in Fayette county, after a pretty thorough investigation, I find but fifteen now surviving; no field officers except myself, and but one surviving 2d lieutenant. This company was the largest in numbers from this State, as was the regiment, the company numbering 105 men. Taking this number as a standard for the 3d regiment, commanded by me, (and I believe it to be a fair average,) there is now surviving one-seventh; or, say 125 men out of, say 950 men. The mortality among the officers, from information, has been greater than that of the men. Then, if my estimate for my own regiment be a fair average for the whole number of enlisted men, (73,260,) would leave of the whole number of survivors, 10,466."

Secretary S. W. Smith, of Monmouth, Ill., an intelligent and zealous worker in the cause, reports as follows:

\* \* \* \* "Let us take Illinois for an example. It furnished six regiments of infantry and several independent mounted companies. If the reports we receive are correct, and we do not doubt them, there are to-day only about 750 men living of the 6,000."

I cannot, however, agree with Secretary Smith that the hardy volunteers of Illinois, most of whom served but one year, afford a fair criterion by which to estimate the survivors of regiments serving throughout the war—an important fact to be taken into consideration.

A letter from Thomas C. Scott, of Walton, Iowa, who appears to be the only one of all my correspondents now living on the bounty land given him by the Government, remarks:

"There were 100 at the reunion in this State last fall, mostly old men with broken-down constitutions. Please recollect that we got only seven or eight dollars a month, and very few had much money when they were mustered out, and they were obliged to sell their discharges to sharpers and land sharks, for from forty to sixty-five dollars each."

This is a fact which nearly every soldier can verify by personal experience.

The letters received from all parts of the Union are cumulative on the question of the number of survivors, and I do not deem it important to burden this report with additional quotation. Perhaps a much greater proportion of deaths have occurred in the Southern States, whence a majority of the troops serving in Mexico were enlisted. Many of the communications I have received are calculated to excite emotions of pity in the hardest heart, and I am loth to believe that the country will begrudge to the survivors, even if three times the estimated number were living, the small pittance asked for the balance of their days, when the results of the war to the wealth and greatness of the nation are considered.

Respectfully submitted,

ALEXANDER M. KENADAY,  
First Secretary N. A. V. M. W.

The action taken by the other branch of Congress in our affairs, is shown by the following extract from the Senate proceedings, published in the *Record* of February 2, 1875, the remarks of Senator Pratt being called out by his presentation of the Joint Resolution of the Indiana Legislature on the subject of granting pensions to the survivors of the army in Mexico:

MR. PRATT. The question of granting pensions to the surviving soldiers of the Mexican war has been before the country for some time, extensively discussed by the newspaper press throughout the country. It will be remembered that a convention was held in this city a year ago, at which resolutions addressed to Congress on this subject were adopted, and numerous conventions have been held in the several States. Anticipating that this subject would come before Congress at its present session, I addressed a letter early in January to the Commissioner of Pensions, for the purpose of obtaining from him information on the following points:

First, as to the number who served in that war, both of soldiers and sailors; second, an estimate of the probable number of survivors; third, an estimate of the probable number of widows of soldiers who served in that war. I have the answer of the Commissioner before me, dated January 6, of this year; and for the information of the Senate and of the country, I ask that this letter may be read by the Clerk at the present time. In this connection I wish to guard against any implication that the Committee on Pensions of this body have expressed any opinion on the subject. It has been before the committee and discussed several times, but they have not come to any resolution yet.

THE VICE PRESIDENT. The letter will be read.

The Chief Clerk read as follows:

"DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, PENSION OFFICE,

"Washington, D. C., January 6, 1875.

"SIR: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 5th inst., requesting information touching service, &c., in the war with Mexico, and to answer as follows:

"1. 'As to the number who served in that war: Soldiers, 73,296; sailors, 5,893: total, 79,159.

"2. 'An estimate of the probable number of survivors: ' In February, 1874, an estimate was made by which it appeared that at that time there were 39,560 survivors. From this number a deduction of probably 10 per cent. should be made to determine the number who may survive at this time, namely: 39,560—3,956=35,604.

"3. 'An estimate of the probable number of Widows: ' In the former estimate, above referred to, the number of widows was fixed at 14,000. A like allowance for death in this class should be made: 14,000—1,400=12,600.

"It is proper in this connection to repeat that these estimates, although made from the best attainable data, and after careful consideration, yet they cannot be relied upon as correct. The results are attained principally through comparison with the experience of the office in acts relating to other wars; but the conditions are not sufficiently analogous to justify entire reliance in them. They are believed to be approximately correct, yet a variance of a considerable amount would not occasion surprise.

"Very respectfully,

JOS. LOCKEY,  
"Acting Commissioner."

"Hon. D. D. PRATT,

"Chairman Committee on Pensions, United States Senate."

It now appeared evident that favorable action would not be obtained from the present Congress unless the Convention announced to meet on the 22d of February could bring to bear an influence that we did not possess here in Washington, and our local association used every effort in their very limited means to bring you together. No pains were spared, however, to induce the House Committee to make a favorable report before your arrival. The all-absorbing questions that

occupied the attention of the House night and day, however, prevented a meeting of the Committee sooner than the 18th of February, when Mr. Small, of New Hampshire, submitted the following report, as expressing the views of the majority of the Committee, (viz: Messrs. Wm. B. Small, of New Hampshire; Alex. S. Wallace, of South Carolina; Henry W. Barry, of Mississippi; C. Y. Thomas, of Virginia; and J. D. Strawbridge, of Pennsylvania.) The report is No. 247, of 1875, to accompany bill H. R. No. 577, and was submitted to the House February 18, and referred to the Committee of the Whole on the Private Calendar, and ordered to be printed:

REPORT OF THE MAJORITY.

The Committee on Invalid Pensions, to whom was referred House bill 577, being a bill granting pensions to certain soldiers and sailors of the war with Mexico, and the widows of deceased soldiers, having considered the same, report (but not unanimously) adversely, and ask to be discharged from further consideration of said bill.

The views of the minority will be presented to the House.

VIEWS OF THE MINORITY.

The minority of the Committee on Invalid Pensions, to whom were referred the memorial of the National Convention of Mexican War Survivors, who assembled in Washington City on the 15th of January, 1874, asking to be placed on the pension-rolls, and also bill H. R. 577, granting pensions to the survivors of the Mexican war, have had the subject under consideration, and submit the following report as their views:

The Federal Government early adopted the policy of rewarding its soldiers and sailors who periled their lives in the military and naval service to save the life of the republic with donations out of the public domain as well as by moneyed pensions. This policy has been steadily adhered to as wise, just, and humane.

The soldiers and sailors of the Mexican war of 1846 and 1848 suffered incredible hardships under a tropical sun and in a malarious climate, and by endurance, valor, and indomitable energy vanquished their foes and brought victory to our arms in a manner so glorious as to deserve at the hands of the country the recognition prayed for in their memorial.

The fruits of the Mexican war resulted in adding an immense area of rich territory to our public domain, out of which new States have been carved and others are yet to be added, besides a mineral wealth that has not only given great impetus to, but has enlarged and diversified the industry and commerce of the western continent.

The war commenced in the spring of 1846, and our soldiers were disbanded in July, 1848. Thus, in about two years our troops marched into an enemy's country of vast extent, lying more than a thousand miles from the center of our population, containing eight millions people, subdued them, and dictated their own terms of peace.

What did we gain by that war? The great State of Texas was involved. The Mexicans claimed *all* that vast territory. This peace enabled us to establish her present lines, and sever her forever from that domination. By the treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo of February 2, 1848, and the Gadsden purchase of December, 1853, Mexico ceded to the United States the territory now covered by the States of California, Nevada, part of Nebraska, also all claim to the territory covered by the State of Texas, and by the Territories of Utah, Arizona and New Mexico, by portions of the Territories of Wyoming and Colorado, and by the unorganized territory lying west of the Indian Territory, embracing in all about 937,875 square miles. This vast area contained more territory than all the organized States of the Union did at the time of its acquisition. To form some estimate of its richness and fertility, its value and commercial importance, we have but to examine its statistics for the past few years. The entire population of the newly acquired territory in 1850 only numbered 406,657 inhabitants, and in 1870 had increased to 1,772,060 persons. The total wealth in 1850 was \$81,062,899 dollars; but in 1870 it had swelled to \$965,622,071. But so rapidly have the population and wealth increased within the past few years that at least one-fifth may be added to these figures for the years since the taking of the census, which will give us over two million inhabitants, and about \$1,200,000,000 of wealth. And in all the industries of the country, this acquired section will bear a favorable comparison according to population and wealth. In mining-resources, however, it outstrips all the balance of the Union together; it is literally the great gold-field of America and of the world. Take, for example, the year 1850, and the total product of gold and silver in the United States amounted to \$61,500,000, of which sum the following amounts were produced, to wit:

California	\$22,500,000	New Mexico	\$500,000
Colorado and Wyoming	4,000,000	Nevada	14,000,000
Arizona	1,000,000		
Total			\$42,000,000

And if this should be taken as an average year since 1850, say for the past twenty-five years, then we will have a yield of \$1,050,000,000, or over one billion dollars. This enormous sum has been sufficient of itself to give an impetus to the commerce of the whole continent, and has had its influence on the civilized world. But the mining resources of this section are believed to be inexhaustible. We have but just commenced, as it were, to dig the hidden wealth embedded in this El Dorado of America. A recent discovery of a *bonanza* in the silver-mines of Nevada is variously estimated by mining engineers to be worth from \$300,000,000 to a sum surpassing belief, stated as high as \$1,500,000,000.

But this territory was not only valuable in itself on account of its intrinsic wealth and resources, but it became the great highway to the Pacific Ocean, and the Orient for the older and more densely populated States of the Union. In this respect, alone, it would more than compensate for all the expenditures of the Mexican war. Who is capable of estimating the value and importance of this acquisition, or by what method can it be estimated? If we undertake

to fix a value upon it, we must do so by statistics of what it is now, and what it was when acquired, comparing the one with the other in all the changes that have been wrought. But this must fail to give any just idea of its greatness and value to the country. We can form a better idea by asking the question, for what consideration would the General Government part with this 937,785 square miles, with its two millions of people and untold resources, and commanding position in the continent, holding in its arms the great gateway to the empires of the East? No money consideration could buy it at all; its value is beyond price; we could not do without it; we can see in it a bright and glorious future of a dense population, containing all the true characteristics of wealth, refinement and a high order of civilization. No war with a foreign country has produced such results in so short a time, and no troops acquitted themselves with more honor and made greater sacrifices during that period of their service. Having gained for the whole country that which for value cannot be estimated, and having reached a period when many of these veterans are in need, many of them in absolute want, and without the privilege of asylum in the Home established by a fund in which every soldier who served in Mexico has an interest, the country should not refuse to reward such faithful and worthy patriots. These soldiers who entered service in 1846, 29 years ago, must be over 50 years of age, and are too feeble to compete with younger men in physical labor. The proceedings of the convention, and a report of the officers of the association appointed by the convention to gather statistics in regard to the numbers of surviving veterans, have been submitted to the committee, from which it appears that less than 10,000 are known to be alive. From the testimony submitted, the committee are of opinion that 10 per centum of the whole number of officers, soldiers, sailors, and marines, engaged in the war from beginning to end, will cover, in round numbers, the survivors. Of this number a large proportion are now on the pension rolls for wounds received in Mexico and in later wars. Several of the State legislatures have passed resolutions requesting their Representatives in Congress to favor the passage of a law granting pensions to these old soldiers; and if the question was left to the decision of the people by a popular vote, in view of all the facts, the pension would undoubtedly be allowed by an overwhelming majority.

These soldiers have fought those battles and acquired that territory, and, without regard to past or present political views, should be recognized by the Government. Such an act would bring about a reconciliation between the two sections of our country more happily than any other act upon the part of the Government.

T. T. CRITTENDEN, of Missouri;  
JNO. D. YOUNG, of Kentucky;  
WILLIAM J. O'BRIEN, of Maryland;  
J. M. RUSK, of Wisconsin;  
JAS. S. MARTIN, of Illinois.

With this brief review of the work performed at Headquarters of the Association during the past year, the matter is submitted to the delegates and members for their verdict. Some progress has been made, and the present status of the case gives hope of ultimate success at the hands of the people's representatives in the Forty-fourth Congress.

The First Secretary reported the list of accredited delegates (which will be found on pages 4, 5, 6.)

When, on motion, the Convention adjourned till Tuesday, 23d February, at 11 o'clock a. m.

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#### SECOND DAY—TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 1875.

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The second session of the Association was held in Willard Hall, and while the delegates were assembling, the Marine band, under the leadership of Professor Schneider, performed several popular airs.

At 11 o'clock a. m., the Association was called to order by First Vice President General J. W. DENVER, (President CADWALADER not having arrived,) and the other officers present took their seats upon the stage.

Secretary KENADAY commenced reading yesterday's proceedings, but a motion prevailed to dispense with the further reading, in order to afford more time for the transaction of other business.

Col. S. P. MOSES, of Washington Territory, offered a resolution providing that the chair appoint a committee of one from each State and Territory, and the Army and Navy, to report this afternoon a schedule of officers for the ensuing year, the election and installation to take place at 2 o'clock p. m., which was adopted.

The **CHAIR** announced that the committee would be selected after the return of the Association from the Executive Mansion, whither they would proceed at once, it being near the hour appointed by President Grant for their reception.

The officers and delegates, to the number of nearly two hundred, were formed, under the direction of the Marshal, Gen. E. R. Biles, of Philadelphia, and ex-Gov. Hebert, of Louisiana, (special marshal by vote of the Association,) and, preceded by the Marine band, marched to the Executive Mansion, where they were ushered into the East room. President Grant soon made his appearance, and the body filed past him, each in turn being introduced, and exchanging cordial greetings—the President recognizing many of the delegates with whom he had bivouacked in front of a foreign foe many years ago. After the ceremony was concluded, a delegate from Baltimore pinned his badge upon the lapel of the President's coat, to which he gracefully assented. The line was again formed, and the column moved in the same order to Willard's Hall.

While the delegates and visitors were being seated, the Marine band rendered "The Star Spangled Banner," which elicited enthusiastic applause.

The **CHAIR** announced the following delegates as a committee to nominate officers of the Association for the ensuing term, viz :

Maj. Gen. S. P. Heintzelman, for the Army; Mr. J. W. Davis, for the Navy; Hon. J. J. Martin, of Alabama; Gen. James F. Fagan, of Arkansas; A. A. Greene, of California; Capt. S. N. Hoyt, of Colorado; Capt. S. V. Niles, of District of Columbia; Capt. H. J. Sargent, of Georgia; Capt. S. Montgomery, of Illinois; Gen. John Love, of Indiana; Gen. Robert B. Mitchell, of Kansas; Col. T. W. Campbell, of Kentucky; Gov. P. O. Hebert, of Louisiana; Capt. Wm. E. Howard, of Maryland; Capt. E. A. Paul, of Massachusetts; Hon. Alpheus S. Williams, of Michigan; A. R. French, Esq., of Minnesota; Gen. Douglas H. Cooper, of Mississippi; Gen. James Craig, of Missouri; Col. James E. Nuttman, of New Jersey; Col. Wm. Linn Tidball, of New York; Col. S. N. Johnson, of Ohio; Gen. James Tilton, of Oregon; Chauncey F. Sargent, Esq., of Pennsylvania; Judge T. J. Mackey, of South Carolina; Hon. W. J. Smith, of Tennessee; Gen. G. H. Giddings, of Texas; Gen. B. D. Harmon, of Virginia; N. N. Hoffman, Esq., of West Virginia; Col. S. P. Moses, of Washington Territory.

The appointed time having arrived for the oration, the **CHAIR** introduced the orator selected for the occasion by the last Convention, Col. William Linn Tidball, of New York, who served in the Mexican War, as a volunteer, in the Third Ohio Regiment. As he advanced to the front, Col. T. was greeted with a round of applause.

#### ORATION OF COL. WM. LINN TIDBALL.

*Mr. President and Comrades of the National Association of Veterans of Mexican War:*

At our Convention a year ago, the first national collection of soldiers and sailors of the Mexican war, the honor of invoking which is due to the associated veterans of this city, we were invited to the consideration of three grand objects—the organization of a national brotherhood, a general assemblage in Philadelphia on the occasion of the Centennial celebration of the natal day of our nation, and the preparation of a joint memorial to Congress for a pension to those still living who served the United States in the war against Mexico. The first of these objects was accomplished by the formation of a national association, the adoption of a constitution and by-laws, and the election of officers, among whom it may be observed with pride are many distinguished men of the country, and at the head a general officer in that war whose gallant achievements are recorded in the imperishable page of history. It is possible that, in the hurry of preparation, some things may have been embraced in our articles of government that ought to have been omitted, and some things omitted that ought to have been provided, but it is in our power to remedy such defects at the present or any subsequent meeting of the Association.

The second object of our Convention, the general assemblage of veterans at Philadelphia on the Fourth of July, 1876, was deferred as by common consent to the present occasion, when it was reasonably presumed we should be better enabled to judge of the preparations necessary for its successful accomplishment.

As in the organization of our national brotherhood, it is in our power to effect this object without any extraneous assistance, in such manner as may command itself to the approval of the majority. Of course something ought to and will be done at this meeting, to secure the presence of as many veterans of Mexican fame as can be collected from all parts of the United States, to join in the pomp and pageantry of the great centennial celebration.

The preparation of a joint memorial to Congress for a pension to the survivors of the Mexican war, the third object of our Convention, and in the estimation of many the most important, differs from the other two in this essential particular, that its accomplishment is not possible without Congressional assistance. In the strictest sense of the terms employed, that object was also effected, for such a memorial was prepared, and through a committee appointed for the purpose, presented in duplicate to the Senate and House of Representatives, and by each referred to its committee on invalid pensions. But something was implied beyond our power to produce, as was evidenced in the fact that the memorial was accompanied by a bill providing every person who served in that war, for a period of sixty days, with a pension of eight dollars a month during his natural life. Perhaps the fullness of our purpose will be better understood when it is declared that the humble prayer of our memorial will be renewed from year to year, until a Congress is found with patriotism enough to remember and reward the soldier and sailor in their waning years, for the glorious services bestowed upon the country in their youth and early manhood.

Having engaged in an undertaking so laudable and beneficent, it behooves every member of this association, earnestly and zealously to endeavor, by speech and pen, and every other honorable means within his reach, to secure its early achievement. And if I am not mistaken, it is expected that I, appointed to address you on this occasion, shall say something that may serve to justify our action, encourage our hopes, and if possible remove any objections that stand in the way of our success.

It may be supposed, as the memorial and bill which we presented to Congress a year ago have ever since remained in the hands of the committees on pensions, that they had been thrust aside as unworthy of notice, or put away in an obscure pigeon hole to be forgotten, or concealed in the hidden recesses of some secret drawer never again to reappear. But the fact is, and it may be said without arrogance, that there was due the petitioners, in view of their past valuable services to the country, a certain degree of respect which no intelligent legislative committee could utterly ignore, even though the humble prayer of their petition was disapproved. Precisely what was done by the committee of the Senate during the last session of Congress I have not been able to discover, though it is believed, as frequently happens in the case of a joint petition, that it was left to a committee of the other house to obtain and report such information as might be useful to Congress when the subject should be properly presented for further consideration. But I am informed that our bill and memorial, in the committee of the House of Representatives, were referred to a sub-committee, with instructions to collect and report such facts and figures, whether for or against the measure proposed, as would enable the committee, the House, and Congress, to dispose of the important matter to which they pertained, in a manner at once just to the petitioners and the country. To this end the minor committee invited the Commissioner of Pensions, who, it was generally understood, had prepared some serviceable statistics on the subject, to appear before them on a certain day, and impart this valuable information. At the time appointed the Commissioner was in attendance upon the committee, having with him what was represented to be a capitation of all the soldiers and sailors who have graced the pension roll of the United States since the close of the Revolutionary war. But another matter being under consideration of the committee at the moment, and occupying more time than was anticipated, the contemplated communication was indefinitely postponed, and our bill and memorial were not again reached during that session of Congress.

These facts coming to the knowledge of one of that curious class of contributors to the current literature of the day known as correspondents, he called upon the Commissioner of Pensions to obtain for the papers he represented the facts which

that official had prepared for the information of the House committee on invalid pensions. Shortly after there appeared in a leading journal of the Capital, and simultaneously in several prominent papers published in the Western states, a carefully written communication containing the facts and figures thus obtained, from which the conclusion was deduced, that a general pension to the survivors of the Mexican war would be an unjust discrimination in their favor, and a measure at once impolitic and unprecedented. As that article reflected the views of the Commissioner of Pensions, or what were supposed to be his views, it was carefully perused by at least some of the members of the committee, and is believed to have influenced their subsequent inaction.

During the present session of Congress, our bill and memorial have been again under consideration; but I need not inform you of any action taken, favorable or unfavorable, as that has already been done by the committee appointed to take charge of them at the close of our Convention. It is sufficient for my purpose to have you know that our bill has not become a law, and that its defeat, or postponement, or whatever it may be termed, was mainly or entirely induced by the statements of the Commissioner of Pensions—one in February, 1874, and the other in January, 1875.

The numbers, estimates and calculations contained in these statements, and in the newspaper statement to which I have alluded, are supposed to embody all the objections that can be urged against the measure proposed; for it is not probable that, under the circumstances, any fact has been omitted that would tend to throw light upon the subject, or any argument overlooked that would serve to secure the object sought to be attained. Viewing the statements in this light, may I not refer to their contents on this occasion, to show the injustice of their application, and, if possible, remove any erroneous impression which they may have occasioned. For this purpose I need not question the accuracy of the statements as to the number of soldiers and sailors engaged in the wars mentioned, the number who subsequently received pensions, or the average expectation of life; but, surely, no one at all familiar with the subsequent history of those who served the United States against Mexico, will upbraid us if we decline to accept, without question, the conjectural conclusions of these curious communications.

By the figures contained in these statements, it appears that the number of soldiers and sailors of all classes engaged in the war of the Revolution, was 289,715; the number engaged in the war of 1812, our second contest with Great Britain, 527,654; and the number engaged in the war with Mexico, 79,159. That the number who received pensions for services in the first of these wars, under the acts of 1818, 1828, and 1832, was 55,110, and 39,295 widows under the act of 1853; for services in the second of these wars, under the act of 1871, mentioned in the call for our Convention a year ago, 21,296, and 5,946 widows; for services in the Mexican war, including widows, about 5,000. That of those who served in the Revolution, about one-fifth became pensioners; and of those who served in the war of 1812, about one-twentieth, which would increase the number already given to nearly 27,000, not including widows; while the number of those now surviving who served in the Mexican war, is estimated to be 35,604, or nearly one-half of all the men engaged. That the average age of those who served in the Revolution at the time of the passage of the last act for their benefit, 1832, was seventy four and a half years, and the expectancy of life beyond that time about seven years; the average age of those who served in the war of 1812 at the time of the last act for their benefit, 1871, was seventy-nine years, and the expectancy of life about six years; while the average age of the survivors of the Mexican war at the present time is fifty-one years, and the expectancy of life about nineteen years. That it was fifty years after the close of the Revolutionary war, and more than fifty years after the close of the war of 1812, before a general act was passed for the benefit of the survivors, such as is asked of Congress for the survivors of the Mexican war after the lapse of only twenty-five years.

Now, in view of all the circumstances here mentioned, are we not justified in the conclusion that these facts and figures were thus arranged, not only that they might appear to the best possible advantage, but the more readily influence the committee and the community when they came to consider what is evidently regarded as the presumptuous prayer of our petition; for if reduced to words,

what could they express other than that the memorialists are endeavoring to secure to themselves for their shabby services in a worthless war, a reward such as was not bestowed upon our honored ancestors for deeds of daring and scenes of suffering that are without a parallel in the history of any country? But although manifestly designed to defeat the object proposed, I cannot assert that there was any intention to mislead the committee or misinform the public, by the preparation or publication of facts not designed to express the truth and the whole truth; and yet I am bound to declare that the figures given, even if they be correct, are not altogether satisfactory as a basis of comparison. In the first place they fail to show how many soldiers and sailors who served in the war of the Revolution, and also in the war of 1812, have received pensions under acts and resolves of Congress, more limited in their application than those mentioned, and under special acts for the benefit of individuals distinguished for their gallant services, or injured in some particularly hazardous enterprise. Failing in these particulars, they necessarily fail to show the exact proportion of those that served in either of these wars, who received at some time, under some act of Congress, some sort of pension from Government, while the expectancy of life is calculated, not from the time of the first, but from that of the last pension granted. And then it is left to be inferred, for there is no statement to the contrary, that the acts mentioned are the only ones granting pensions to the survivors of the Revolution and later war with Great Britain; whereas, the fact is, that many acts were passed for the benefit of the former before that of 1832, and many also for the benefit of the latter before that of 1871.

In this connection it may not be uninteresting to mention briefly the prominent characteristics of some of the pension laws enacted for the benefit of the survivors of the Revolution. As early as May, 1778, an act was passed entitling to a reward of eighty dollars, all non-commissioned officers, musicians and privates who enlisted for the war and served to its termination; and in 1828, the survivors of such were granted a pension of full pay during their natural lives. In October, 1780, a relief pension of half pay was granted to each of a certain class of surviving officers; and in 1828, the pay of such of these as were then living, was increased to full pay, according to the respective rank of each, not exceeding the full pay of a captain of the line. The act of March, 1818, already mentioned, was for the benefit of all officers, non-commissioned officers, musicians, soldiers, marines and mariners who served to the end of the war, or for a period of nine months during the war in the army or navy of the United States, and who were at the time of the passage of the act or might afterwards become, by reason of reduced circumstances in life, in need of assistance from the country for their support, each officer being entitled to twenty dollars, and each of the others to eight dollars a month during their lives. The act of June, 1832, more extended in its scope than any of the previous acts, embraced all surviving officers, non-commissioned officers, musicians, soldiers and Indian spies who served in the Continental line, and all State troops, volunteers and militia who served in the war not entitled to benefit under the relief act of 1828; and entitled each who had served two years at one or more terms to receive the amount of his full pay according to his rank, but not to exceed the pay of a captain of the line; and also entitled each who had served a term or terms in the whole not less than six months, to an amount bearing such proportion to the annuity granted to the same rank for the service of two years, as his term of service bore to that period.

Here let it be observed that the acts to which I have alluded, the principle ones of a general character passed for the benefit of the soldiers of the Revolution, provide only for the relief of the poor, and grant what are known as indigent pensions, which are not to be confounded with invalid pensions, bestowed for wounds received in battle, or other injuries sustained in the service in the line of duty. Of the latter pensions there were a great many bestowed during the war, and afterwards during the lives of the survivors, some for the benefit of individuals, and others for the benefit of classes of individuals, whereby full pay was granted to some and to others extra pay and emoluments. These invalid pensions, as well those bestowed during the war as afterwards, were renewed from year to year for many years, and subsequently from time to time with longer intervals so long as the invalids lived, and after their deaths to their widows so long as they lived.

In 1838, an indigent pension was granted for a term of five years to a certain class of widows who had married previous to the year 1794, a period that was extended on two or three occasions, and finally during the time they should remain widows; and in 1853, the widows of all officers, non-commissioned officers, musicians and privates of the Revolutionary army, were granted pensions with certain restrictions.

Nevertheless, it is a noteworthy fact, that of all the numerous acts of Congress granting pensions to the soldiers and sailors of the Revolutionary war, there is not one so wide in its scope and so general in its character as that passed in February, 1871, for the benefit of the survivors of the war of 1812. By that act the Secretary of the Interior was authorized and directed to place on the pension roll the names of all the surviving officers and enlisted and drafted men, including militia and volunteers of the military and naval service of the United States, who served sixty days in the war and were honorably discharged. Whereas, the shortest period of service for which pensions were granted to the survivors of the Revolutionary war, not invalids otherwise provided for, was six months, and then only to such as could establish by undoubted evidence that they were in need of assistance from their country to save them from starvation. By a comparison of the pensionary benefits bestowed by the act just mentioned, with those of the most liberal laws ever enacted for the relief of the survivors of the Revolution, it will be seen that a very marked discrimination has been made in favor of those who served in the later war, or conversely, against those who achieved our glorious independence—a discrimination, to use with slight variance the language employed against the veterans of the Mexican war, if not impolitic, at least unprecedented.

As already remarked, the principal objections offered to the bill submitted with our memorial are the aggregate number of the survivors of the Mexican war, their average age, and their expectancy of life, as reckoned by the Bureau of Pensions. It is stated that the number, given at over 35,000, was ascertained by actual computations from tables used in the census reports, by the mode of calculation common to life assurance associations, and such others as speculate in human existence; and it is claimed that the number would not materially differ from an actual count could one be made. As an instance of the correctness of the Pension Office computations, it is declared that when the proposition came before the House of Representatives to pension the survivors of the war of 1812, it was shown that the number would probably exceed 40,000, and it is added that already over 41,000 claims have been presented. It is said elsewhere, in the same statement, that under the act alluded to, 21,296 were benefited, but there is nothing to show what became of the other 20,000 applications. Are we to infer that over 20,000 claims, or about one-half of all presented, were rejected as fraudulent, or held in abeyance? Or are we to infer that over 20,000 patriots of the war of 1812, whose average age was seventy-nine years, and whose expectancy of life was but six, were unjustly deprived of pensions to which they are lawfully entitled? If we assume that no such injustice has been done to these aged patriots, and we hope for the sake of humanity that there is good ground for such an assumption, are we not forced to the conclusion that the calculations of the Pension Office, in so far as they pertain to the survivors of the second British war, are, to say the least, surprisingly inaccurate? And if erroneous in respect to the survivors of that war, may we not reasonably conclude that estimates made by the same office, from the same tables, by the same mode of calculation, concerning about the same number of people, may be equally incorrect? Allowing for a similar miscalculation, the number of survivors of the Mexican war, instead of being over 35,000, would be about 17,000, including such as served less than sixty days, and are excluded from the benefits of the bill by its own provisions.

But without further reference to this discrepancy, let us consider the estimated number of the survivors of the Mexican war, having in view some of the circumstances of their subsequent history. In computing the number of these, it should be remembered that the war, after the battles of Palo Alto and Resaca de la Palma, was carried on in the States of Mexico, a country differing in many essential respects from our own, particularly in the climate, which, hot nearly every where in summer, and in the winter cold only in the mountains, was in some places arid, and in others sultry, whereby the soldiers were exposed to climatic

influences to which they were wholly unaccustomed, and in no wise prepared to resist and overcome. The result was disease in nearly every form common to the tropical regions, and death in a greater proportion than ever befell an army of the United States in any other war, not excepting the protracted struggle against the Seminoles in the everglades of Florida. Of the survivors, it is a well known fact, that a very considerable number was discharged on account of disease contracted in the line of duty, and that a much larger number, who had served to the end of the war, returned to their homes with the seeds of disease in their systems; and it is also a well known fact—one that I have never heard questioned unless it be by the computations of the Pension Bureau, that the greater portion of both of these classes, after a few years of intense suffering, died of these diseases. Upon the discovery of gold in California, the survivors of the Mexican war were among the first to adventure by land and water to the sunny slopes of the Pacific, being thereby not only subjected to the worst exposures by the way, but to all the vicissitudes incident to gold-hunting under the first fever of excitement; and while it is reasonable to conclude that the loss among them by death was in proportion to their number, it is generally believed that the proportion was very much greater, occasioned by their susceptibility to climatic changes, the result of similar exposure during the war. When in the course of human events it became necessary to call for volunteers, in the South to sustain and in the North to suppress the recent rebellion, the survivors of the Mexican war on both sides of Mason and Dixon's Line, yielding to the influences of surrounding circumstances, were the first to rush into the conflict and the last to lay down their arms; and it is estimated, by the help of what are supposed to be well authenticated facts, that the loss by death among them, in both the contending armies, was very much greater in proportion to the number engaged than of any other class of contestants. For these reasons, and many others that might be given, it is believed that the survivors of the Mexican war, who would be entitled to a pension under the bill presented with our memorial, do not in reality exceed, if they even reach, a fourth of the number given by the Pension Bureau; and we are strengthened in this belief, because there is perhaps not one within the sound of my voice who cannot count upon the fingers of his two hands all the survivors of the company in which he served, while here and there is one who can safely say that he is the last of the eighty or hundred with whom he entered the army.

But the act of 1871, though in our bill we follow its language in every unobjectionable feature, is not allowed us as a precedent, for the remarkable reason that only a little over a quarter of a century has elapsed since the close of the Mexican war. To constitute an example for us, it is necessary that full half a century should have passed away, that nineteen-twentieths of our number should have died, and that the average age of the lingering twentieth should have reached to four score years. The objection is not urged on the ground that a man of only fifty-one years is still able to earn a support by manual labor, but because the number to be benefited being nearly one-half of the whole engaged in the war instead of only one-twentieth, with an expectancy of life of nineteen years instead of only six, it would cost the government too much money, not only to pension so many, but to continue to pension some of them for so long a period.

I do the Bureau of Pensions no injustice when I say that the facts and figures prepared for the committees, when analyzed and applied to the subject under consideration, justifies this and no other conclusion. It is true that the expense of a measure is oftentimes a matter of importance, and may be in the enactment of a pension law, as doubtless it was during the earlier years that followed the close of the Revolution, when the Government was deeply in debt, and the people of the whole country impoverished by the protracted war that secured to them independence, and to us the choicest blessings of liberty. But is there any justice in the practice of such parsimony toward the survivors of a war that added millions of miles to the extent of our territory, and millions upon millions of dollars to the wealth of our country? Because a father with three sons finds it difficult out of his small fortune to educate his first born at a public school, and scarcely less difficult when his income has doubled to send his second son to the village academy, would it be an act of justice, when his wealth has increased &

hundred fold, to deprive his youngest son of the better benefits of a collegiate course of instruction, because his elder brothers had not enjoyed a similar privilege?

It may be that the veterans of the Mexican war overestimate the value of their services to the country, yet I feel very sure that they would never have ventured to compare the war in which they participated with either of our wars against Great Britain. But inasmuch as this has been done by an officer of the Government, at least by implication, may we not be permitted to consider these wars together, and contrast a few features quite as conspicuous as those made manifest by the comparison?

About ten years before the Revolution, the British Parliament conceived the scheme of taxing the American colonies, to aid in the support of the home government and in the furtherance of her foreign wars. To effect this object duties were laid on imports into the colonies from foreign countries, particularly on the necessities of life, as tea, coffee, and sugar, and certain stamp duties were imposed, with penalties for their violation, to be decided by the admiralty courts, creatures of the crown, without the intervention of a jury. An effort to enforce these acts of oppression was followed by the destruction of three ship loads of tea in Boston harbor, the assembling of the Provisional Congress in Philadelphia, a general preparation for war, and the battle of Lexington. The war that ensued extended through a period of eight years, and after a hundred battles of more or less magnitude on land and ocean, culminated in the surrender of Lord Cornwallis, at Yorktown, and secured not only the rights for which it had been waged, but the largest liberties ever enjoyed by a free people. There is not in all history a parallel of this war, for though other oppressed peoples have revolted against their governments, as Ireland, and Cuba, and Poland, and Greece, and Hungary, only the people of the united American colonies, who "preferred prisons to infamy and death to servitude," achieved and maintained their independence.

Our second war with Great Britain was also the result of oppression, but of a character altogether different from the wrongs imposed on the colonies previous to the Revolution. The questions at issue were the right of search, and expatriation; Great Britain, on various pretences, assuming authority to search the vessels of other nations, and maintaining that a man born a subject could not by any act change his native allegiance. America, more liberal in her policy, held that a man had a right to break the bonds imposed by his birth, and become a member of another government by naturalization, which entitled him to the protection and all the privileges of a natural born citizen. The war covered a period of nearly three years, if we include the battle of New Orleans after the treaty of peace was signed, and the capture of three British war vessels after it was ratified. Great Britain having repealed the order by which neutral nations were prohibited from trading with her enemies, and discontinued the impressment of American seamen, the principal objects of the war were secured.

Many years before the Mexican war, adventurous citizens of the United States, and kindred spirits from other nations, had emigrated into Texas; and having for convenience and security formed themselves into settlements, and subsequently built towns and cities for their accommodation, they experienced the necessity of a home government. In 1833, they adopted a constitution and applied for admission into the Mexican union as a separate State—a reasonable request that was not only denied them, but their commissioner was seized and thrown into prison; and two years after the Mexican confederacy was dissolved and the whole country reduced under Santa Anna to a military despotism. The people of Texas refusing to submit to these arbitrary proceedings, a strong army was sent into that department to enforce the requisitions of the government. The war that ensued, in which the Texans were distinguished for their bravery, and the Mexicans for their barbarism and butchery, terminated with the battle of San Jacinto, where General Houston killed and wounded of the enemy more than his own force numbered, and captured nearly as many more, including the three principal generals, Cos, Almonte and Santa Anna. This victory was followed by the treaty of May, 1836, in which Santa Anna, as President of Mexico, bound himself solemnly to acknowledge, sanction and ratify the full, entire and perfect independence of Texas, with the Rio Bravo del Norte as the western boundary of the new Republic.

During the ten years that ensued the people of Texas maintained their independence, and repelled the successive invasions of Mexico under Bascur, Canales and Woll; and in the meantime applied to the United States, as they had previously done to Mexico, for admission into the union as a separate State. In March, 1845, a joint resolution was passed by Congress, providing that the territory rightfully belonging to the Republic of Texas, should form part of the American union, on condition that the latter government would settle all questions of boundary that might arise with other governments and on the fourth of July following, it was ratified by the people of Texas in convention. The Mexican Minister of foreign affairs held this act to be a declaration of war between the two countries, and Paredes, then supreme governor of Mexico, publicly announced his determination to bring Texas under re-subjection. Early in the spring of 1846, to protect the people of the new State from the threatened invasion, Gen. Taylor traversed the disputed territory between the Nueces and Rio Grande, and erected a battery and fort opposite Matamoras. This event was speedily followed by the actual invasion of our territory, the assassination of Col. Truman Cross, the capture of Capt. Thornton and his party of observation, the defeat of Capt. Walker and his Texan Rangers, the bombardment of Fort Brown, and the battles of Palo Alto and Resaca de la Palma.

Here it would be proper, if time would permit, to portray the services rendered by the soldiers and sailors in this war—services that would not suffer by a comparison with those of any other nation, or with those of any other war of our own nation. But as the events of the war are minutely recorded in histories accessible to every reader, I need only advert to those of principal prominence, to show that the patriotic people of this country, in return for the gallantry of our arms and the glory of our achievements, would be amply justified in a reasonable exercise of their great gratitude and generosity.

Of the several independent commands moved in different directions against Mexico, that of General Taylor, the Army of Occupation, is entitled to first mention, being the first in the order of time. It was operated on the line of the Rio Grande and Rio San Juan, and through the mountain passes in the direction of San Luis Potosi. The battles of Palo Alto and Resaca de la Palma were open field fights, between two thousand Americans and six thousand Mexicans, the latter under command of Arista, one of the most accomplished generals of Mexico—the defeat of the enemy on the first day, and his utter discomfiture on the second, being accomplished at a loss to our army of only 177, while that of the enemy exceeded 1,000. The situation of Monterey and the strength of her fortifications justified the Mexicans in the belief that the city was impregnable; but to the Americans, accustomed to surmount every obstacle, these extolled defences, though composed of formidable forts, redoubts, and batteries, were only so many positions to be reduced; and after a short preparatory siege, and three days spent in successive storms, all these strongholds were carried by our chivalrous soldiery, only 7,000 in number, with a loss of 561, the number and loss of the enemy never having been correctly ascertained. But the crowning glory of this army was the battle of Buena Vista, another open field fight, and perhaps all things considered the most remarkable in modern times, wherein a force of less than 5,000 volunteers encountered over 20,000 of the choicest troops of Mexico under their most skillful commander, and after two days desperate fighting defeated them in every quarter, and drove them from the field, with a loss of fifteen hundred men, or more than twice as many as our army sustained.

Of the other two forces originally designed to operate against Mexico, The Army of the Centre, under General Wool, and The Army of the West, under General Kearny, it is sufficient to say of the former, that it was marched from San Antonio de Bexar to Monclova, where preparations were made for a descent upon Chihuahua; but on receiving intelligence that Kearny, after capturing Santa Fe, had received the surrender of that city, Wool changed his course and merged his army into that of Taylor previous to the battle of Buena Vista. At Santa Fe Colonel Doniphan, with the mounted men of Missouri, was detached from the Army of the West, and ordered to open communication with Wool; an order which he faithfully executed, chastising the hostile Navajos by the way, and conquering the Mexicans in greatly superior force at Bracito and Sacramento. In

the meanwhile Commodore Sloat had captured Monterey and San Francisco, in California : and then surrendering the command to Commodore Stockton, the latter with the help of Major Fremont had captured Puebla de los Angeles and Santa Barbara. On his arrival in California, Kearny marched upon and defeated a large force of the enemy at San Pasqual, and afterwards in conjunction with Stockton, conquered a still larger force at San Gabriel, and again the next day on the plains of Mesa, thus virtually ending the war in California.

Subsequently our Government organized another expedition, denominated The Army of Invasion, to land at some point on the western part of the Gulf of Mexico, and proceed thence under the care of the General-in-chief, Major General Scott, to the capital of Mexico. Before the arrival of this army, Commodore Connor had captured Tampico, and Commodore Perry, Tobsco, the latter after a sharp conflict ; and before the siege commenced, Lieut. Hunter had taken possession of Alvarado. So assured were the Mexicans of the impregnability of Vera Cruz and the renowned castle of San Juan de Ulloa, that they offered no resistance to the landing of our army, and were apparently unconscious of their perilous situation, until Patterson and Pillow opened their heavy mortars upon the city ; and though subsequently making a good defence, they were compelled, at the end of four days, after a dreadful destruction of life and property, to strike their colors, surrender their garrison of 5000 men as prisoners of war, and evacuate their forts and castle, the latter containing 400 pieces of ordnance.

The march of our victorious general to the capital was first impeded at Cerro Gordo, a commanding height near a narrow gorge where the national road crosses the Plan del Rio, defended by a tower and numerous works, and a force of 15,000 men under Santa Anna. The enemy, after a short though severe struggle, dismayed by the impetuous charge of our troops, threw down their arms and fled from their fortresses, leaving behind not only their heavy ordnance and field batteries, but even their small arms and accoutrements. In this engagement, although our force was only half the number of the enemy, we captured 3,000 prisoners, among whom were five generals of distinction. Following up their advantage, the Americans pursued the enemy through Jalapa, took possession of La Hoya and the city and castle of Perota, defeated a body of lancers in the plains of Amasoca, and having reached Puebla, waited the arrival of reinforcements. Thus General Scott and his army, in less than two months, had captured three large cities, two castles, 10,000 men, 700 cannon, and an immense quantity of shot, shell and small arms.

Advancing upon the capital, the American army encountered no further obstacle until they reached Contreras, a strong fortress mounting twenty-two guns and garrisoned by seven thousand troops under Valencia. The storming of this stronghold by three thousand men under the lead of Smith, Cadwalader and Riley, with a loss to the enemy of seven hundred killed, eight hundred wounded, and fifteen hundred prisoners, is justly regarded as one of the most brilliant achievements of the war. The capture of Contreras was immediately followed by the battle of Churubusco, or rather by a series of battles, for on that day no less than five were fought before the surrender of the citadel ; in which our troops, divided under Twiggs and Worth and Pillow and Shields—in all eight thousand five hundred men, with a loss of one thousand, overthrew and dispersed thirty-two thousand, killing and wounding one-eighth of their number, and capturing three thousand prisoners, among whom were eight generals and two hundred other officers.

These battles led to an armistice ; but after twelve days spent in fruitless negotiations, the principal difficulty being the western boundary of Texas, involving the old question of disputed territory, hostilities were renewed. The enemy to the number of fourteen thousand, was entrenched behind a line of strong fortresses, extending from Molino del Rey, under the guns of Chapultepec, to the strong citadel of Cassa Mata ; but after several hours incessant fighting, our invincible little army of three thousand men, carried the entire line of defences, losing seven hundred and eighty, but inflicting upon the enemy a loss of three thousand. The storming of Chapultepec, an isolated mound of great elevation, strongly fortified from base to crown, and defended by six thousand men, was accomplished in the face of a most desperate resistance, by two columns moving in opposite directions,

one under Quitman and the other under Pillow and Cadwalader, with a loss to the enemy of one thousand killed and wounded and 800 prisoners, among whom were a major general and six brigadiers.

Of the two great routes from Chapultepec to the capital, Worth followed that which leads to the gate of San Cosme, and Quitman the road that enters the Belen, each an elevated causeway defended by many strong breast-works, and an army stung to desperation by defeat and the danger that menaced the capital of their country. The resolute resistance of the entrenched army, scarcely equalled in any previous engagement, was due in a great measure to the personal presence of Santa Anna, first at Belen and afterwards at San Cosme; but like the formidable fortresses in our rear, one after the other fell before our invincible troops, who entered the city in triumph, and planted the star spangled banner upon the National Palace. O how glorious the spectacle, when the general-in-chief, like Saul of Israel, head and shoulders above all the people, stood in the midst of his victorious army, and for his great conquests thanked Almighty God in the Hall of the Montezumas!

So many bloody battles, against such great odds, before strong entrenchments, under the fire of fortresses, could not possibly take place without loss to the victors as well as the vanquished; and throughout our land, mothers, like Rachel, were weeping for their children. Of those who make war a profession, how many fell as they would wish to have fallen, fighting for their flag—Cross and Mills, Ransom and Scott, Ringgold and Brown, Barbour and Lear, Williams and Field, Thornton and Drum, and many others, all distinguished for their intrepidity. There was a much greater number among those who pursued the peaceful walks of life, but in the hour of peril beat their plowshares into swords and their pruning hooks into spears, and rushed to the rescue of Taylor and Twiggs, or followed the fortunes of Scott: conspicuous among whom were Hamar, of Ohio; Baxter, of New York; Butler, of South Carolina; Yell, of Arkansas; McKee and Clay, of Kentucky; Hardin, of Illinois; Watson, of Maryland; and Walker, of Texas. Besides these were a vast number whose names, though not found in the page of history, are entered in the records of their country, and cherished in the memory of their comrades.

As the survivors of these gallant men, in whose glorious deeds we were also participants, are we not reasonably justified, after the lapse of more than quarter of a century, in asking of our country this public recognition? Or must some of us, whom fortune favored in the fight, but deserted when the struggle was over, wend our weary way in poverty to the grave, because full half a century has not elapsed since the war, and our heads have not grown white with the frosts of eighty winters?

The figures prepared in the Bureau of Pensions, as I have already remarked, were designed to show that the prayer of our petition could not be granted without unjust discrimination in our favor; leaving it to be inferred that the survivors of the wars with Great Britain had been amply rewarded for their valorous and valuable services. It is possible that the Government was as liberal toward these brave men as the condition of the treasury would warrant; but the most generous apologist will not fail to discern a greater liberality in the time that was allowed to pass, than in the pittance which was eventually bestowed. It is the pittance for which we petition, and against the time that we remonstrate, holding to the opinion that, if our services are entitled to any greater reward than that already received, it is not time that is to be taken into consideration, but the present and prospective condition of the country.

That the character of the services rendered may be fully understood and appreciated, let us place in sententious juxtaposition a few of the prominent features of the three great wars mentioned by the Bureau of Pensions. Taxation without representation and trial without jury led to the Revolution; the impressment of American seamen and the plunder of American vessels, to the war of 1812; the invasion of a sovereign State and the effort to subjugate a sovereign people, to the war against Mexico. By the first of these wars we gained national independence and civil liberty; by the second, we secured our citizens against seizure and foreign service; and by the Mexican war we not only sustained the integrity of a sovereign State, but saved her people from death and their property from destruction.

tion. Of the hundred battles fought during the Revolution, more than one-half were British triumphs; of the foro-score battles fought during the war of 1812, more than one-third were also British triumphs; but it may be mentioned as a characteristic of the Mexican war, that the Americans never met the enemy, however great the disparity of numbers, without giving him immediate battle, and if we except a few insignificant reverses, as the surprise of Borland, the defeat of DeRusse, and the raid upon McIntosh, never without victory. At the close of the Revolution, such was the poverty of the people, occasioned by the decay of trade and manufactures, that the inhabitants of certain districts, in resisting the collection of government taxes, drifted into sedition and insurrection. At the close of the second British war, not only had the people sunk again into deplorable poverty, but the public debt had increased to over \$123,000,000. The war with Mexico differed from these in one essential particular—it was self-sustained; partly by contributions levied upon conquered cities—a fund that was afterwards employed in erecting the Soldiers' Home; but mainly by the treaty of peace, which added to our public domain all the vast territory embraced within the boundaries of New Mexico and Upper California. The territory thus acquired, gave us the ports of the Pacific and opened to our enterprising people the trade of the East, while the precious ores in which the soil abounds, enriched our people with an ease never before experienced and to an extent never before realized, and developed the resources of our country until it has become in all the essentials of a great government, the first nation of the earth.

Here allow me to repeat, that the soldiers and sailors of the Mexican war would never have ventured to compare their services with those rendered the country by our forefathers in the wars against Great Britain, if it had not first been done by an officer of the Government to defeat the humble prayer of our petition. And lest the object be now misunderstood, permit me to add, that in making manifest some of the distinguishing differences between these wars, we do not claim to have had a better cause, or in the performance of our duty to have displayed a greater gallantry; but merely to show that our cause was also just, that our gallantry, though judged by the highest standard of excellence, was creditable to ourselves and useful to our nation, and that the results of the war in which we participated, have placed it within the power of Government to exercise toward us a generosity that perhaps could never have been extended to the survivors of the earlier wars. If I were to comment upon the comparison made by the Pension Office, perhaps it would be to say that our Government, even if impoverished by the British wars, never fully appreciated, or at least never sufficiently rewarded, the invaluable services of our heroic forefathers, to whose memories be everlasting honor and glory!

A pension is not, as many suppose, an emotional gift of government, induced by poverty and pity—poverty of the applicant and pity of the government; but an act of justice, grounded in equity,—a reward of merit,—a compensation for services faithfully rendered and inadequately remunerated. It is not bestowed upon all citizens indiscriminately, but only upon those who have served in the army or navy, in the face of danger and of death, and received the seal of their country's approbation.

Two things are necessary to maintain a war—men and means; men to fight the battles, and means to provide the men with proper care, subsistence, and transportation. When it is necessary to take a man's property, the cost is ascertained, and he is compensated; and it not unfrequently happens that the rate of recompence is greatly in excess of its actual value, either to himself or the government. When a man's money is required, he receives a certificate, or bond, or other evidence of indebtedness, which usually represents a greater sum than government realized, at a rate of interest higher than is allowed to other citizens, and free from taxation which is imposed on all other property; and these discriminations, whether just or unjust, are rigidly enforced upon the principle that, whatever its character, a contract is sacred and inviolable. But the soldier and sailor, who enter the service of their country, whether voluntarily or compulsorily, are obliged to receive what their government provides—the smallest pay, the coarsest food, the roughest clothes, the thinnest shelter; and when their services are no longer required, if they have escaped the blades, the bullets and the bayonets of the enemy, they are carelessly thrown off like a worn-out garment. Is this justice? Is

it equity? is it humanity? Is property of greater value than human blood? is money of more worth than human life? The answer is found in the fact that our Government, sensible of the injustice which it cannot otherwise redress, has created pensions for the benefit of such as have served and survived, and for the families of such as have perished.

Generically, pensions may be divided into three classes—invalid pensions, which are bestowed upon such as were wounded in battle, disabled by some other injury, or by disease contracted in the line of duty; indigent pensions, which are a gratuity to such as have become too poor to live without the aid of Government, of whom there were many among the survivors of both the British wars; and patriotic pensions, which are granted as a reward for meritorious services that have been followed by an honorable discharge. It is the last of these for which we pray in our petition, not only because in it the other two are included, but as well because we desire to have the names of all who served honorably in the war, written in the pension list, which is in peace the roll of honor. If it should include some who were not wounded in battle, it would also include some who were wounded but cannot obtain pensions under existing laws. If it should embrace a few who are not yet fifty years of age, and a few others who are still in the enjoyment of good health, it would also embrace a great many who are far down on the sun-set slope of life, and a great many others who, through various causes since the war, have fallen into premature decrepitude. If it should comprise here and there one who is rich and here and there another who is in comfortable circumstances, it would also comprise very many who, to use the language of our memorial, are now not only poor in this world's goods, so essential to the comforts of human happiness, but absolutely destitute of the very necessities of existence, and pensioners upon the charity of those of their comrades in arms whom fortune has more highly favored.

As might be supposed, the possibility of a pension originated with those who had passed through disease and distress to the verge of starvation, and after a careful survey of the weary walks of life leading from fifty to the grave, had failed to discover any other means of extrication. Having some such in nearly every community, it is no marvel that the suggestion, as a mode of helping the helpless and enabling the better conditioned to exercise a more liberal charity, was received with a favor that has steadily increased, until all who served under circumstances which entitle them to this honorable distinction, have encouraged the movement by their sympathy and influence. Among these may be mentioned the surviving generals of the Mexican war—Butler, Patterson, Pillow, Shields, Cadwalader, Lane, Harney and Cushing, the President of the United States, the General and other distinguished officers of the army, the Vice Admiral and other distinguished officers of the navy, governors of states, senators and representatives in Congress, and in private life many more than I could name without undue encroachment on your time and patience. It is scarcely to be presumed that the combined efforts of so many distinguished men of the country can fail to secure, at an early day, the recognition and reward for which we pray in our petition; but in the meanwhile, as poverty leads to distress and destitution, sometimes to crime and degradation, let those who can extend to those who need a bountiful benefaction, keeping in view the important fact, that a time will come to all who lead an honorable life,—as it did come to the survivors of the Revolution, as it has come to the survivors of the later British war,—when it will be one of the proudest encomiums pronounced upon living man—he was a hero of the Mexican War.

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At the close of his oration, Col. Tidball was applauded with much enthusiasm, and the venerable Henry S. Lane, Ex-United States Senator from Indiana, catching inspiration from the surroundings, arose and made a brief but incisive speech, indicating that the fires had been rekindled in his breast which made him famous as an orator years ago. Gen. Lane concluded his remarks with a motion, which was unanimously adopted, that a copy of the truthful and admirably prepared oration of Col. Tidball be requested for publication in the proceedings of the Association.

On motion, the thanks of the Association were tendered Professor Schneider and the Marine band, who responded with "Dixie," and then retired.

Col. W. L. Tidball and Col. A. H. Reynolds, (Pa.) who had been appointed by the President for the purpose, here submitted the order of business, [published on page 2, for more convenient reference,] which was adopted and made applicable to the subsequent business of the Association.

**WAR DEPARTMENT CORRESPONDENCE—THE DEAD HEROES OF BUENA VISTA.**

Judge T. J. Mackey (S. C.), at the request of the Chair, (the Secretary being much occupied with other duties,) read the following correspondence with the War Department in relation to the dead heroes of the Mexican war, who were buried at Monterey and Saltillo :

SALTILO, MEXICO, January 2, 1875.

*Hon. Secretary of War, Washington, D. C.:*

**GENERAL:** In compliance with your request to me while in Washington, in September last, I have the honor to transmit to you the following statement of the facts in relation to the burial places of American soldiers who fell in the battles of Monterey and of Buena Vista, near this place, in the Mexican war.

The dead of this place and Buena Vista were buried in a vacant lot contiguous to the old Campo Santo, of this city, on the southeast side of the town. A suitable inclosure was erected, and the graves were at one time marked by stones, but the lot was private property; the American officers neglected to procure a title to it, and the owner has, many years since, reclaimed his land, and destroyed every vestige of its being a burial place. A short time since a crop of corn was harvested from this lot, and it is now planted in wheat. It was known for many years as the Campo Santo de los Americanos. I have spoken with the Governor of the State about erecting a suitable monument to the soldiers buried there, and he freely offered to do all in his power to protect it from defacement in the event of its erection, providing that it be simply a memorial monument, and contains in its inscriptions nothing of a triumphal character, calculated to offend the sentiments of the Mexican people by reference to their discomfiture in the battle. I have no doubt that the lot could be purchased, for a small sum, from its present owner, and the title deeds registered in the proper office, a copy being left in the American consulate at Monterey. As to the dead of Monterey, I have before me a recent letter of the American consul, J. Ulrich, of Monterey, in which he says: "The men who were killed at the taking of Monterey were buried near the place where they fell, some below the town, near the tanneries, others near the 'Obispado,' (Bishops Palace,) and some of the officers who were killed, and some officers and men who died were buried near the Walnut Spring, where General Taylor had his camp. At the latter place there was, at one time, an inclosure, and some stones marking some of the graves. At present there is no indication on the spot of its having been a burial place, corn being planted there, and the stones probably now being in the walls of some of the ranchitos in this vicinity. At none of the places where there were burials are there now any signs to mark the spot, and there are few persons here who could identify them. \* \* \* I have made frequent inquiries on the subject at various times, but have never obtained any thing satisfactory. There are no monuments of any kind whatever."

He also states that the bodies of many of the officers who fell were subsequently removed to the United States. He furthermore thinks that no opposition to the erection of a monument would be made by the State or municipal authorities, but thinks it would be best to procure an order from Mexico, authorizing its erection, to secure it against abuse in the many vicissitudes to which the country is exposed.

In view of the time that has elapsed, now 27 years, since the interment of these bodies, the uncertainty, even of their identification, and the almost impossibility of collecting them in one place, as well as of the remote localities in which the bodies are interred, and the consequent difficulty of guarding it against unauthorized, wilful defacement, I would respectfully suggest that the most feasible thing to be done is to erect a suitable memorial monument in the Campos Santos of Monterey and this place, purchasing the necessary ground from the respective municipal authorities. It would be thus secured from all depredation, and from the public character of the places better carry out the idea of showing the nation's gratitude to its illustrious dead.

As to the material for the monument, it might be made in the United States from iron and shipped here, or it might be made of a very fine marble which can be procured near Matihula, in the State of San Luis Potosi, 60 leagues from here. In any way in which I can be of service in carrying out your ideas in this matter, you have only to command me. I have the honor to be, General, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. G. CAROTHERS,  
*Late Ass't Surgeon and Bvt. Capt. U. S. Vols.*

**WAR DEPARTMENT, WASHINGTON CITY, February 5, 1875.**

*Gen. J. W. Denver, President Mexican War Association, No. 1115 Pennsylvania avenue N. W.:*

**GENERAL:** The Secretary of War has handed me the inclosed letter from Dr. Carothers, relative to the soldiers of the United States who were killed in the battles near Monterey and Buena Vista, and whose remains are buried near Saltillo and Monterey, and suggesting that a suitable memorial monument be erected in the Campos Santos of those cities.

The graves of these soldiers having been obliterated by cultivation, they cannot now be rescued from desecration, and it has occurred to me that the memory of these gallant men might be more duly honored and perpetuated by erecting a handsome monument in the city of Washington, than in the manner suggested by Dr. Carothers.

I mentioned this to the Secretary of War, and he advised me to write to you upon this sub-

ject, knowing that you could give the sentiments of the Mexican war veterans. I therefore invite your attention to this interesting subject.

Yours, very respectfully,

OSCAR A. MACK,

*Lieut. Colonel 21st Infantry, and Breret Colonel U. S. A.*

WASHINGTON, D. C., February 12, 1875.

*Col. Oscar A. Mack, U. S. A., War Department, Washington, D. C.:*

**COLONEL:** I acknowledge receipt of your note of 5th instant, inclosing an interesting communication addressed to the Secretary of War by Dr. Carothers, in relation to the remains of our dead comrades at Monterey and Saltillo, in Mexico, suggesting that a memorial monument be erected in the "Campos Santos" of those cities. I fully concur with your views of the subject, that the memory of those gallant men will be better perpetuated by the erection of a monument at the Capital of the nation, in whose service they offered up their lives, than in the manner suggested by Dr. Carothers, in view of the fact stated by the Consul at Monterey, that "at none of the places where there were burials are there now any signs to mark the spot."

One of the objects for which the survivors of the Mexican war have organized, is stated in the "circular" which called them into existence as a society, as follows :

\* \* \* \* \*

"Second. To rescue from oblivion the memory of their comrades who died and were buried on the battle-fields of Mexico, and to procure the official publication, by the Government, of their names in a Roll of Honor, and proper care bestowed on their resting place."

\* \* \* \* \*

It is perhaps not practicable to render proper tribute to the memory of these men on the soil where they were buried, within the jurisdiction of another government; nor is it likely, after the lapse of so many years, that their remains could be gathered up for burial here in their present state of dissolution.

I think, therefore, that the erection of a suitable monument at the Capital of the United States, dedicated to the achievement of American arms in Mexico, and the official publication of a Roll of Honor, containing the names of those who died in the performance of duty while in Mexico, would be in accordance with the wishes of the survivors.

I thank the honorable Secretary of War, in behalf of the Association, for the kindly interest he has manifested in this direction, and hope he will use his high influence in bringing the subject to the attention of Congress at an early day.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. W. DENVER

*President Association Veterans of 1846, &c.*

On motion of Col. SCHLEY, the correspondence was referred to a select committee, to recommend such action as might be proper for the Association.

The CHAIR appointed as the committee, Col. Schley, (Md.,) Maj. Montgomery, (U. S. A.) and Mr. M. D. Montis, (D. C.)

On motion of Maj. ALEX. MONTGOMERY, U. S. A., the following resolution was adopted, and referred to the committee above referred to for action :

*Resolved*, That in the opinion of this Association, the erection of monuments at Monterey and Saltillo, in honor of those American soldiers who fell in the war with Mexico, should be postponed until that country shall be annexed to the United States, but that, in the meantime, a proper monument ought to be erected near the Capital of the United States.

Col. SCHLEY moved that when the Association meets again, it be in Philadelphia, on the 4th day of July, 1876, and that Judge T. J. Mackey, of South Carolina, be the orator of the day.

Col. MOSES moved, as a substitute, that the Association meet in Washington, D. C., February 22, 1876, and that Gen. George W. Morgan, of Ohio, be the orator of the day.

These motions elicited considerable discussion, in which many of the members participated, but on a question of order being raised, the Chair held that they were improperly introduced, under the rules just adopted for the transaction of business, and declared them out of order.

#### REPORT OF COMMITTEE TO SELECT DESIGN FOR A BADGE AND SEAL OF THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION.

Major A. J. Dallas, U. S. A., from the committee appointed by the last Convention, (consisting of Gen. P. O. Hebert, Gen. Albert Pike, Gen. James Tilton, and H. R. Crosby, esq.,) submitted two designs—the first, for a shield, to be worn as a badge by members of the National Association of Veterans of the Mexican War; the second, an oval seal, to be used in impressing the diploma, &c.

The first, it was decided by the committee, should be of the size of the design herewith, to be worn attached to a ribbon (red, white, and blue) as broad as the greatest width of the shield, fastened superiorly to a bar, on which the words "National Association of Veterans" should be placed, the omitted words, "Mexican War," being replaced by the words found on the badge, viz: "Mexico—1846." The ribbon to be fastened to the shield on its back by a roller,

and the bar to be similarly provided with a pin, to attach the whole to the coat. The material selected is bronze, and the manner of execution throughout in bas-relief.

The committee also recommend that Congress be memorialized to make a grant of one or more pieces of bronze artillery to the Association, captured in the Mexican war, for making the shields adopted by them.

The report was adopted.

[NOTE.—After the Convention adjourned, and before the close of the session of Congress on my request, the Hon. William S. Herndon, of Texas, introduced a resolution, on the 27th of February, in the House of Representatives, donating cannon for the purposes above indicated. As it required unanimous consent to have it taken up, the resolution went over on the objection of Mr. Killinger, of Pennsylvania, as reported in the daily papers.—A. M. K.]



#### Description of Badge.

A modified American Shield. The outer rim raised from the general surface, and having thereon the names of battles of the Mexican War, in the order and selection as given in the design. The letters to be block.

1. Left upper corner, a man-of-war, as given in the design: Navy.
2. Apex of centre, a bursting bomb: Ordnance.
3. Centre group of arms: Rifle—volunteer element; musket, sabre and pistol—infantry and cavalry.
4. Right upper corner, a field piece: Artillery.
5. Directly under group of arms the word "MEXICO" in block.
6. Thereunder a Magney plant surrounded by cactus, emblematic of Mexico.
7. Thereunder a Castle: Engineers.
8. Thereunder the figures "1846:" Date of war.
9. 5, 6, 7 and 8 are surrounded by laurel wreath as in design, banded below with three folds, bearing on the same the names as given in design.
10. Surrounding the wreath, arranged, as given in design, twenty-nine five-pointed stars: Number of States at date of war.



#### Description of Seal.

An oval, as given in design. The outer rim plainly milled.

1. Around the inside of rim 29 five-pointed stars, equal size, for the number of States in 1846.
2. Inside the upper half of circle of stars the words arranged as found in design, "National Association of Veterans," in block.
3. Directly under centre of foregoing a bursting bomb: Ordnance.
4. Thereunder a castle: Engineers.
5. Thereunder a stack of two muskets, with sabre and cartridge-box, as given in design: Infantry and Cavalry.
6. Thereunder, as arranged in design, the word "Mexico," in block.
7. Thereunder a foul anchor and artillery gun crossed: Navy and Artillery.
8. Thereunder the figures "1846."
9. On right of stack a Magney Plant.

[NOTE.—When impressed on diploma, to be found in relief.]

#### REPORT OF AUDITING COMMITTEE.

Col. Robert Klotz, of Pennsylvania; Major A. J. Dallas, U. S. A., and M. D. Montis, of Washington, having been appointed to examine the accounts of the Treasurer and First Secretary, submitted the following, which was adopted:

Your committee beg leave to report that they have duly examined the accounts of the Treasurer and Secretary and find the following condition of affairs in the case of Mr. A. M. Kenaday, the First Secretary. This officer has received in the course of the year past, from various

sources, by direct donations and sale of pamphlets, \$569.15. The Secretary has expended this amount as shown by his vouchers from parties performing the work, and his own voucher for postage and incidental expenses, and has beside from his personal funds advanced the sum of \$31.00.

The Treasurer, Mr. McCarthy, received the sum of \$58.46 by a collection taken up by him at Masonic Hall from the Convention in January last. Mr. McCarthy produces a voucher for rent of said Hall of \$30.00, leaving the balance in his hands of \$28.46.

Your committee beg leave to report that they have ascertained that a sum of \$10 was expended by Mr. P. H. Allabach for cleaning the Metropolitan Church after the meeting of the Association therein last winter, and recommend that this amount be allowed from the balance now in the hands of the Treasurer.

Your Committee, in closing its labors, feel impelled to record their high appreciation of the labors of Mr. A. M. Kenaday, in his office. This Association owe to this gentleman a debt of gratitude for his close attention to their interests, and the unselfish conduct exhibited by him in the transaction of his duties,

(Signed.)

ROBERT KLOTZ,  
M. D. MONTIS, } Committee.  
A. J. DALLAS,

Judge MARTIN (Ala.) moved that a committee of five be appointed to arrange for the next meeting of the Association, and to select an orator of the day.

The motion was adopted, and the CHAIR appointed the following gentlemen: Judge J. J. Martin, of Montgomery, Ala.; Rear Admiral Fabius Stanley, Washington, D. C.; Gen. E. R. Biles, of Philadelphia; Gen. Robert B. Mitchell, Kansas; Gen. James Craig, St. Joseph, Mo.

The committee appointed from the several States to select officers of the National Association for the ensuing term, reported the following, who were unanimously elected: President, Gen. J. W. Denver; First Vice President, Gen. John Love; Secretary, Alexander M. Kenaday; Assistant Secretaries: First, Col. Wm. L. Schley; Second, Maj. J. F. Huber; Third, Maj. H. A. McGlenen; Fourth, Gen. W. T. Hall; Treasurer, Capt. Samuel V. Niles; Marshal, Gen. E. R. Biles.

The committee also recommend that the delegates from each State and Territory present be requested to select a Vice President and a member for the Council of Administration for their State, &c., whereupon the roll of States was called by Secretary Kenaday, and the following nominations made and approved: [For more convenient reference, the list of officers is published on page 5.]

Col. S. P. MOSES moved that the officers of the National Association be requested to take proper action for obtaining necessary legislation to secure the right of domicile at the Soldier's Home for aged and needy veterans of the Mexican war. Adopted.

Mr. JAMES S. DAWSON, N. Y., offered the following preamble and resolution, which were agreed to:

Whereas many deserving mechanics and others of the veterans of the Mexican war are now out of employment, and whereas we believe it to be a just rule that those who have faithfully served their country in the army or navy, and have been honorably discharged, should be entitled to precedence in the matter of employment by the Government; therefore

*Resolved*, That the officers of the Government are hereby respectfully requested in the dispensation of the patronage and employment, to give the veterans of the Mexican war the consideration which is their due and which the necessities circumstances of many of their number urgently require.

A resolution prevailed directing the President, Secretary and First Assistant Secretary to ascertain the cost of having the necessary work done in executing the badges required for the members of this Association, and they be also authorized, in the name of the Association, to apply by bill to Congress for the donation of bronze cannon for the material for this purpose.

On motion of Col. Robert Klotz, (Pa.) it was resolved that a committee be appointed to wait upon the Pension Committee of the Senate and House of Representatives and urge action upon the memorial and bill pending in the interest of the veterans of the Mexican war.

In this connection, Capt. S. N. HOYT (Colorado) moved that the same committee tender, on behalf of the Association, its thanks to the members of the House Invalid Pension Committee who signed the minority report.

After some remarks by other members complimentary to members of the Pension Committee, and particularly to Hon. T. T. Crittenden, of Missouri, by whom the minority report was presented, the motion was unanimously adopted. The Chair appointed as said Committee, Gen. S. P. Heintzelman, Gen. Henry S. Lane,

Gen. M. D. Manson, Col. Robert Klotz, Col. Wm. Linn Tidball and Col. Wm. L. Schley.

On motion of Capt. S. N. Hoyt, it was

*Resolved*, That the thanks of the Association are eminently due and are hereby tendered to the Hon. Richard C. McCormick, Delegate from Arizona, for bringing to the attention of Congress a proposition to erect a suitable monument to the memory of Gen. Zachary Taylor, for his services in the Mexican War.

Col. W. L. TIDBALL moved that a committee of three be appointed to revise the Constitution and By-Laws of the Association and report at the next meeting. Adopted, and the following gentlemen were appointed: Col. W. L. Tidball, Judge T. J. Mackey and Gen. M. D. Manson.

Gen. JOHN LOVE, of Indiana, offered the following resolution:

*Resolved*, That an Executive Committee of three members, residing in Washington, be appointed by the Chair, with full power to raise the necessary funds for the use of the Association, by assessment on the States or otherwise, as in their discretion may be best, and that all disbursements be made by their order.

The PRESIDENT appointed Major General S. P. Heintzelman, Captain Samuel V. Niles and M. D. Montis, Esq., as said committee.

Maj. A. MONTGOMERY moved that the Finance Committee open a subscription now to defray the expenses of the Association, and that the members present be invited to subscribe before adjournment.

Col. Klotz, of Pennsylvania, Col. Campbell, of Kentucky, President Denver, and others, favored Major Montgomery's proposition.

Col. SCHLEY and others, however, objected to the resolution, on the ground that many of the delegates had left the Hall, and it would not result in equitable taxation, and that it might lead to embarrassment; whereupon it was decided to leave the whole matter with the committee just appointed.

Col. TIDBALL moved that the next annual meeting of the Association be held in Philadelphia on the 4th day of July, 1876.

A member suggested as an amendment, that the Association hold two meetings in 1876: one at Washington, on the 22d of February, and the other in Philadelphia, on the 4th of July; and that Col. D. S. Johnston, of Georgia, be appointed orator for the meeting at Washington, and Gen. George W. Morgan, orator of the day for the meeting at Philadelphia.

Another suggestion was made that Judge Mackey, of South Carolina, be selected as the orator at Washington, and Gen. Lew. Wallace, of Indiana, orator for the Philadelphia meeting.

JUDGE MARTIN called attention, in the midst of this running-fire of motions and suggestions, to the fact of record that a committee had been appointed to select a time and place for the next annual meeting, and also an orator of the day; and remarked that as different times and places for the meeting, and different individuals for orator of the day, had been suggested, it would be impossible for the committee to discharge those duties acceptably if they were obliged to report at the present meeting.

This remark gave rise to considerable discussion, in which Gen. Love, Judge Mackey, Col. Schley and several others took part; it being insisted by some of the speakers that the Association could determine now the time and place for the next regular assemblage.

The several amendments to Col. Tidball's motion were then voted upon in their regular order, and each lost by a decided majority.

In the further discussion of the original motion a lively debate ensued, during which several other amendments were suggested but not formally submitted.

At length Gen. JOHN LOVE offered a substitute, which was accepted by Col. Tidball, and afterwards adopted by the Association, to wit:

*Resolved*, That the next annual meeting be held in Philadelphia on the 4th of July, 1876; that the officers of the Association meet in Washington on the 22d of February of the same year, to further the interests of the Veterans; and that the Committee to select an orator for the next meeting of the Association, report their selection to the meeting of officers in Washington.

On the motion of Secretary KENADAY, the thanks of the Association were voted to the public spirited host of Willard's Hotel, for the generous use of his establishment, "Willard Hall," for the meetings of the Association the past two days.

On motion of Capt. A. R. French, a collection was taken up to defray the expense of cleaning the floors of the hall. [The collection netted \$22.40, of which \$20.00 was appropriated for that purpose.]

On motion, the Press of Washington City and of the country generally, were voted the thanks of the National Association for the sense of justice usually pervading the notices given the public of the efforts of the Veterans to secure recognition of their services at the hands of Congress.

The day being far spent, and the Hall having been previously engaged for the evening by other parties, the business for which the delegates had convened was hastily terminated. Many of them had come from remote distances, at great expense and some sacrifice of comfort, and they desired to return by the evening trains to their loved ones at home. During the session the debate had been spirited, but good-natured zeal was its general characteristic. If any shreds of aeriemony lingered in the minds of those who wrangled in debate, at the close they were promptly knitted up for use elsewhere, when the President arose and announced that Judge Mackey would read Theodore O'Hara's beautiful poem, "The Bivouac of the Dead," which was composed for, and read at the dedication of Kentucky's monument to her gallant sons who fell in the Mexican war. The eloquent Carolinian (the youngest delegate present, perhaps, having served in the Palmetto Regiment when a mere lad) rendered this popular poem with melodious accent and scholarly discretion, the appreciative listeners meanwhile standing in their places as if spell-bound by the reader's eloquence, repressing their enthusiasm till the close, when it burst forth hearty and rapturous.

President DENVER then came forward and said:

**COMRADES:** With the termination of your labors the time has arrived for us to separate, and again to return to our homes. Our meeting has been characterized by the best of feeling. I trust that you may all live to see many such meetings, for it cheers and strengthens the heart to meet those with whom we have passed through dangers and trials long years ago. The achievements of the American army in Mexico were accomplished for the most part by young men. The spirit of adventure then aroused, afterwards carried our comrades to every part of the habitable globe. Untold toils and exposures followed, drawing along in their trains disease and death. Many, very many of the brave spirits whose hearts never quailed in face of the enemy, on the field of battle, have gone to their long homes, and the twenty-eight years that have passed since we were marshalled on the soil of Mexico have left their impress on all who are living. Our country has been called on to give recognition of your services; services unsurpassed in the magnitude of their results to the whole people, and the glory of our arms, by any other army in modern times. It cannot be possible that your appeal will remain long unheeded by Congress. By your exertions the boundaries of our country were carried across the Rocky mountains and the magnificence of the Pacific coast was developed and utilized. From these accessions have arisen States and Territories sufficient of themselves for a vast empire. These are constantly reminding the country of your achievements. How, then, is it possible for Congress to leave your memorial unanswered? It cannot be long. We have the same unbounded faith in our country now that we had when in the days of our youth we sprang to arms at her call.

Since our first meeting a year ago, we have had to mourn the death of several of our comrades. Our next meeting will be at Philadelphia on the occasion of the centennial anniversary of our independence as a nation. I sincerely trust and pray that a kind Providence will permit you all to be present on that grand occasion in the enjoyment of good health. Until then, comrades, farewell! It only remains for me to declare that the Association now stands adjourned in accordance with the resolution just passed.

Forwarded by A. M. KENADAY, Sec'y, &c., Lock Box 37, Washington, D. C.

# “CENTENNIAL REUNION”

OF THE

## National Association

OF

# Veterans of the Mexican War,

THIRD ANNUAL SESSION,

PHILADELPHIA, JULY 4, 1876,

CONTAINING

Names of Survivors Present; Reports of Officers; Oration of Gen. Thos. T. Crittenden—An Interesting Historical Sketch of the War of '46; Important Decision of the Interior Department in Relation to Bounty Land Claims; Officers Elected; and Other Matters of Interest.

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PREPARED AND PUBLISHED BY  
ALEXANDER M. KENADAY,  
First Secretary.

(Price Optional.—See Circular Letter of Finance Committee, p. 3.)

WASHINGTON:  
CUNNINGHAM & BRASHEARS, PRINTERS.  
1876.

# How to Cleanse Your Medal and Preserve its Brillancy.

If your medal becomes badly discolored, wash first with alcohol; then mix a solution of one-fourth water to three-fourths sulphuric acid (commonly called oil of vitriol;) wash this solution off with cold water. To preserve the brilliancy of the metal and prevent rust, make solution of four-fifths of rectified spirits turpentine and one fifth of oil varnish—rub the mixture over the metal with a sponge.

**BADGE RIBBON.**—The Committee have on hand a surplus quantity of TRI-COLOR RIBBON which they would like to utilize. Members so situated that they cannot renew their badge-ribbons at the stores where they reside, can have a new piece of the proper length forwarded by mail if they enclose three postage stamps (or 10 cent stamp) to the Secretary, Lock Box 37, Washington, D. C. The large amount of correspondence required of the Secretary necessitates this method of covering the expense involved.

**MEDALS ELECTRO-PLATED IN GOLD.**—Many members have written to the Secretary inquiring the cost of electro-plating their medals in gold. The work can be done here in the best style of the art, and returned to the owners with new ribbon, at *two dollars each*. The medal can be sent by mail, if wrapped securely in paper, and tied with a string, (but not sealed or pasted,) at a cost of three cents. Electro-plating in silver would cost \$1.50.

## ◆◆◆◆◆ PARDON FOR CERTAIN DESERTERS.

It will be remembered that after the war was virtually over the discovery of gold on the Pacific coast produced considerable demoralization among the soldiers on duty in California and Oregon. They had served faithfully throughout the war, but the temptation to "dig a fortune in a few days" was too much for very many of the soldiers, and they cleared out to the mines in large numbers. Of course they stand as "deserters" on the rolls of the War Department, unless Congress in its generosity relieves them. It is hoped the peculiar circumstances surrounding these cases of desertion will influence members of Congress in supporting House Bill No. 3961, introduced by Mr. Luttrell, of California, on the 24th of July, and now before the Committee of Military Affairs. It proposes to give an honorable discharge from the service from the date of desertion, and relieves them of any penalty incurred thereby, under existing laws.

## ◆◆◆◆◆ THREE MONTHS' EXTRA PAY TO MEXICAN VETERANS WHO HAVE NOT YET RECEIVED THE SAME.

Hon. H. Y. Riddle, M. C., of Tennessee, introduced last March the following bill, which passed the House of Representatives on the first of July, and it is hoped will pass the Senate this winter and become a law. Those volunteers and regulars who were discharged from service *after* the 19th of July, 1848, are presumed to have received this extra pay, but doubtless many of those discharged prior to that date never made application:

**A BILL** to authorize the Secretary of the Treasury to pay to officers and soldiers engaged in the war with Mexico, the three months' extra pay provided for by the act of July nineteenth, eighteen hundred and forty-eight.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House, &c.*, That the Secretary of the Treasury be, and he is hereby directed, out of any moneys in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, to pay to officers and soldiers "engaged in the military service of the United States in the war with Mexico, and who served out the time of their engagement, or were honorably discharged," the three months' extra pay provided for by the act of July nineteenth, eighteen hundred and forty-eight, in all cases, upon the presentation of satisfactory evidence that said extra compensation has not been previously received.

The act of July 29, 1855, (which was repealed in 1870,) to which the foregoing bill refers, provides that officers, non-commissioned officers, musicians and privates, engaged in the military service of the United States, and who have served out the term of their engagement or have been honorably discharged: And, first, to the widows; second, to the children; third, to the parents; and fourth, to the brothers and sisters of such who have been killed in the battle, or who died in service, or who have been honorably discharged, have since died, or may hereafter die without receiving the three months' pay herein provided for, shall be entitled to receive three months' extra pay.

## ◆◆◆◆◆ TO MOUNTED VOLUNTEERS IN MEXICAN WAR.

It is known that there are on file in the Treasury Department large numbers of *unsettled* claims of mounted volunteers for horses and equipments, lost while in the military service during the Mexican war. Should this paragraph attract the attention of any comrade who has such unsettled account against the Government, it might be to his advantage to correspond with the Secretary on the subject.

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(Price Optional.—See Circular Letter of Finance Committee, p. 3.)

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WASHINGTON:  
CUNNINGHAM & BRASHEARS, PRINTERS,  
1876.

# Officers of the National Association.

President: **JAMES W. DENVER**, Washington D. C.

1st Vice President: **JOHN LOVE** Indianapolis, Ind.

First Secretary: **ALEX. M. KENADAY**, *Lock Box 37, Washington, D. C.*

Treasurer, **S. V. NILES**, Washington, D. C.; Marshal, **E. R. BILES**, Phila., Pa.

Assistant Secretaries, **W. L. SCHLEY**, Baltimore, Md.; **H. A. MEGLENEN**, Boston, Massachusetts; **S. G. SWAN**, Henderson, Texas.

Financial Committee: **S. P. HEINTZELMAN**, (Maj. Gen. U. S. A.) **S. V. NILES**, and **M. D. MONTIS**, Washington, D. C.

**U. S. ARMY**.—Jefferson C. Davis, Evt. Maj. General U. S. A., V. P., Omaha; Benj. Alvord, Paymaster Gen. U. S. A., C. of A., Washington, D. C.

**U. S. NAVY**.—Stephen C. Rowan, Rear Admiral, U. S. N., V. P., N. Y.; Fabius Stanley, Rear Admiral, U. S. N., C. of A., Washington, D. C.

**ALABAMA**.—John R. Coffey, V. P., Faekler; A. J. Huggins, C. of A., Scottsborough.

**ARKANSAS**.—J. F. Fagan, V. P., Little Rock; Edward J. Brooks, C. of A., Muscogee, Indian Territory.

**CALIFORNIA**.—Richard P. Hamond, V. P., San Francisco; S. O. Houghton, C. of A., San Jose.

**COLORADO**.—Wm. Gilpin, Denver; S. M. Logan, C. of A., Denver.

**CONNECTICUT**.—Levi Woodhouse, V. P., Hartford; Justin Hodges, C. of A., Riverside

**DIST. COLUMBIA**.—J. W. Denver, V. P., Washington; Albert Pike, C. of A., Washington.

**GEORGIA**.—George S. Fisher, V. P., Augusta; David S. Johnson, C. of A., Madison.

**ILLINOIS**.—C. H. Kettler, V. P., Belleville; S. W. Smith, C. of A., Monmouth.

**INDIANA**.—Henry S. Lane, V. P., Crawfordsville; Mahlon D. Manson, C. of A., Crawfordsville,

**IOWA**.—I. W. Griffith, V. P., Des Moines; Josiah Given, C. of A., Des Moines.

**KANSAS**.—E. N. O. Clough, V. P., Leavenworth; J. R. McClure, C. of A., Junction City.

**KENTUCKY**.—W. T. Ward, V. P., Louisville; T. W. Campbell, C. of A., Bowling Green.

**LOUISIANA**.—G. Mason Graham, V. P., Alexandria; P. O. Hebert, C. of A., New Orleans.

**MARYLAND**.—Joseph H. Ruddoch, V. P., Baltimore; John T. Gray, C. of A., Baltimore.

**MASSACHUSETTS**.—Isaac H. Wright, V. P., Boston; Stephen Hoyt, C. of A., Salem.

**MICHIGAN**.—Alpheus S. Williams, V. P., Detroit; Daniel McConnell, C. of A., Grand Rapids.

**MINNESOTA**.—Edmund Rice, V. P., St. Paul; Francis Peteler, C. of A., Minneapolis.

**MISSISSIPPI**.—Beverly Matthews, V. P., Columbus; Claiborne Farrish, C. of A., Woodville.

**MISSOURI**.—L. C. Easton, V. P., St. Louis; Jonas J. Clark, C. of A., Chillicothe.

**NEVADA**.—W. W. McCoy, V. P., Eureka; W. Frank Stewart, C. of A., Virginia City.

**NEW HAMPSHIRE**.—T. P. Pierce, V. P., Nashua; George Bowers C. of A., do.

**NEW JERSEY**.—Chas. Bowers, V. P., Newark; James E. Nuttman, C. of A., do.

**NEW YORK**.—Ward B. Burnett, V. P., New York; M. H. Mills, C. of A., Mt. Morris.

**NORTH CAROLINA**.—O. R. Smith, V. P., Raleigh; E. Cantwell, C. of A., Wilmington.

**OHIO**.—George W. Morgan, V. P., M. unt Vernon; C. N. Allen, C. of A., Steubenville.

**OREGON**.—E. Hamilton, V. P., Portland; John W. Egan, C. of A., do.

**PENNSYLVANIA**.—Robert Klotz, V. P., Mauch Chunk; C. F. Sargent, C. of A., Phila.

**RHODE ISLAND**.—A. E. Burnside, V. P., The Capitol; Nelson Viall, C. of A., Providence.

**SOUTH CAROLINA**.—R. G. M. Unnivant, V. P., Edgefield; W. B. Stanley, C. of A., Columbia

**TENNESSEE**.—Gideon J. Pillow, V. P., Memphis; Leon Tynesdale, C. of A., Nashville.

**TEXAS**.—S. B. Maxey, V. P., The Capitol; G. H. Giddings, C. of A., Brenham.

**VIRGINIA**.—Robert G. Scott, V. P., Richmond; B. D. Harmon, C. of A., Staunton.

**WASHINGTON TER.**.—James Tilton, V. P., Seattle; Granville O. Haller, C. of A., Coupeville.

**WEST VIRGINIA**.—G. A. Porterfield, V. P., Charleston; M. L. Dorn, C. of A., Martinsburg.

**WISCONSIN**.—A. A. Meredith, V. P., Madison; C. R. Johnson, C. of A., Black River Falls.

## List of Members Present.



Those marked with a \* have no record of service on file with the Secretary.

**U. S. ARMY:** Jefferson C Davis, 3d Indiana Inf.

**U. S. NAVY:** A. J. Dallas, (Major, U. S. A.,) Midshipman, U. S. N

**CALIFORNIA:** Emil Loeven, 2d N. Y. Inf; William Wilcox, 5th Ill. Inf; Robert D'Estimanville, 10th Inf; William Woolley, 1st N. Y. Inf; Edward Parks, 3d La. Inf; Hiram A. Curtis, 3d Ohio Inf; George S. Evans, 11th Texas Rangers; George Bingham, 2d Pa. Inf; George W. Ross, Navy; David H. Shaw, 2d Ohio Inf; Francis Rooney, Navy; \*Samuel Rawlins; Jas. W. Baldwin, Va. Inf.

**CANADA:** Abraham Defayette, 2d Inf.

**COLORADO:** Samuel M. Logan, 3d Inf.

**DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA:** James W. Denver, Captain 12th Inf; S. V. Niles, Lt. 16th Inf; Alexander M. Kenaday, 3d La. Inf, and 3d U. S. Drag; Daniel Smith, 2d Md. and D. C. Inf; Joshua Clark, 1st Md. and D. C. Inf; Edward Johannes, Q. M. Dept; Nathan H. Robbins, 5th Texas Cav; Benjamin R. West, 2d Lt. 2d Md. and D. C. Inf; Thomas T. Crittenden, 2d Lt. 3d Mo. Cav; Samuel N. Hoyt, 5th Ill. Inf.

**GEORGIA:** William T. Wofford, Geo. Cav.

**ILLINOIS:** John M. Gill, 4th Ill. Inf; Henry Lash, 4th Ill. Inf.

**INDIANA:** John Love, Bvt. Capt. 1st Drag; John L. Tyler, 3d Art.

**IOWA:** Nicholas Greusel, Capt. Michigan Inf; William P. Hurd, 5th Indiana Inf; Clinton Jackson, 16th Inf; Thomas C. Scott, La. Cav; E. Bogardus, Capt. 14th Inf.

**KENTUCKY:** Samuel P. Barbee, 2d Ky. Inf.

**LOUISIANA:** \*Edward Ross; James C. Downer, Capt. 7th La. Inf; Andrew Walker, 1st Ark. Cav.

**MARYLAND:** William L. Schley, Sgt. Maj. 3d Drag; Ferdinand Schultz, 3d Drag; William F. Perry, 2d Lt. Marine Corps; J. H. Rnddach, 1st Lt. 1st Md. and D. C. Inf; Louis F. Beeler, 1st Md. and D. C. Inf; John G. Fury, 2d Md. and D. C. Inf; Ross Johnson, Navy; Francis Merritt, Navy; Thaddeus Kelly, 1st Md. and D. C. Inf; John Taylor, 16th Inf; James Reilly, 1st Md. and D. C. Inf.

**MASSACHUSETTS:** Henry A. McGlenen, Mass. Inf; Charles E. Hiss, 2d Tenn. Inf; Charles F. Dodge, Ordnance Dept; John H. Jackson, Capt. 9th Inf; Ozias Rayner, Mass. Inf.

**MICHIGAN:** Thomas B. W. Stockton, Col. 1st Mich. Inf; Norton B. Rowley, Mich. Inf; Joseph Salkeld, 2d Art; Charles W. Sandford, Mich. Inf; Daniel McConnell, 10th Inf; William B. White, 5th Ind. Inf; Frederick W. Curtenius, Capt. Mich. Inf; Alpheus S. Williams, Lt. Col. Mich. Inf.

**MINNESOTA:** Lafayette H. Bunnell, Mich. Inf.

**MISSISSIPPI:** Thomas P. Young, Tenn. Cav.

**MISSOURI:** \*J. S. Warmoth

**NEVADA:** Edwin A. Sherman, 8th Inf; Clark Potter, 1st Ind. Inf; William Cradlebaugh, 2d Ohio Inf.

**NEW JERSEY:** Stephen W. Markwood, Mt. Rd. Rifles, John Swain, 2d Pa. Inf; Francis D. Clark, 1st N. Y. Inf; James E. Nuttman, 1st N. Y. Inf; Stephen T. Townsend, 2d and 10th La. Inf; Charles Bowers, 5th Inf.

**NEW YORK:** Reuben B. Landon, 1st Ill. Inf; Myron H. Mills, A. A. Surg. Mo. Vols; \*W. L. Tidball, \*William Coligan, \*G. W. M. Leonard, \*William Wade, \*Henry Roscoe, \*John Vickers, \*Thomas Shipton, J. S. Dawson, Navy, \*William H. Maxwell, \*John J. Landigan, \*J. X. Wiler, \*S. S. Swinger, \*S. Meehn.

## LIST OF MEMBERS PRESENT.

**NORTH CAROLINA:** R. A. Jones, 13th Inf; James Reilly, 2d Art.

**OHIO:** John Conwell, 5th Inf; G. W. Gibbs, 2d Pa. Inf; George W. McCook, Lt. Col. 3d Ohio Inf; \*William Higgins

**PENNSYLVANIA:** Edwin R. Biles, Sgt. Maj. 4th Art; Robert Klotz, Lt. and Adj't 2d Pa. Inf; Charles B. Mowry, 1st Pa. Inf; Ephraim N. Banks, 6th Inf; Wilson B. Connor, 1st Pa. Inf; Edward Atkins 1st Pa. Inf; William Willis, 2d Pa. Inf; Joseph M. Kinkead, 1st Pa. Inf; Henry Fisher, 1st Pa. Inf; William H. Hope, 7th Inf; Daniel Nagle, 1st Pa. Inf; Joseph Hileman, 2d Pa. Inf; Charles W. Diven, 2d Pa. Inf; John Blocher, 1st Pa. Inf; \*A. J. Proud, \*Patrick McDonald, \*Robert Carter, \*John Jacoby, \*Enoch Thomas; William Babe, N. J. Inf; \*William J. Mackey; J. Jacob OsVandel, 1st Pa. Inf; \*John H. Johnson, \*Jas Shartden, \*William Ward; Chauncey F. Sargent, 2d Pa. Inf; R. E. Winslow, 1st Pa. Inf; \*Jas Crossman; \*L. Taylor, 1st Pa. Inf; Thomas T. Mahan, Va. Inf; W. K. Blain, 2d Pa. Inf; \*D W. Morris, \*Orlando Lake, \*Henry Kimmell; Charles H. Myers, 6th Inf; B. D. Bernhard, 1st Pa. Inf; Daniel Capehart, 2d Pa. Inf; Jacob Adler, 4th Ohio Inf; John Bechtel, 2d Pa. Inf; William Boyd, 1st Tenn Inf; Thomas G. Funston, 1st Pa. Inf; Orlando B. Grifith, 2d Lieut; 16th Inf; Robert Cochran 3d Drag; Theodore W. Dunham, 2d N. Y. Inf; John Dolman, Marine Corps; William H. Gray, 1st Lieut; 11th Inf; Hugh Kerr, 1st Art; David B. McKibben, Maj. 2d Art; Anthony H. Reynolds, 2d Lieut; N. J. Inf; John Roach, Va. Inf; J. McCredy, Va. Inf; Lewis Myers, 3d Drag; James Moan, 3d Drag; William N. Shultz, 1st Pa. Inf; Jas Spear, N. J. Inf; Joseph C. Taylor, 1st Pa. Inf; Parmenas T. Turnley, 2d Lieut 1st Inf; Robert Wallace, Va. Inf; David P. Weaver, Eng'r Corps; George Moore, Lt. 1st Pa. Inf

**SOUTH CAROLINA:** William B. Stanley, 1st Lt. S C Inf; Henry W. Wienges, S C Inf; George Oppel, 4th Art.

**TENNESSEE:** Ben F. Egan, 2d Lt. 4th Ky. Inf; William J. Smith, Tenn. Rangers; Rob't Humphreys, 14th Inf; J. C. Wright, 4th Tenn Inf.

**TEXAS:** Thomas S. Deaderick, 1st Texas Cav; W. A. Mason, 13th Inf; William M. Bush, Indt Ky. Inf; Hogan Witt, 6th Texas Cav; J. E. S. Russell, 5th Mo. Cav; Leonidas Wilson, 3d Texas Cav; M. D. Cooper, Tenn. Cav; Thomas J. Towney, 3d Texas Cav; A. J. Nicholson, 1st Texas Cav; John M. Massay, N C Inf; Cary Watson, 3d Texas Cav; Thomas Hobbs, 5th Texas Cav; P. M. Price, 3d Texas Cav; Joseph Britter, 3d Texas Cav; James M. Barton, 2nd Texas Cav; James B. Gault, 2d Texas Cav; John E. Anderson, 2d Texas Cav; R. R. Holton, 2d Texas Cav; B. F. McCarty, Ky. Cav; George W. Goodwin, 1st Miss Inf; Hiram C. Gray, Tenn Cav; Samuel Robinson, 3d Tenn Inf; Lewis J. Bailev, Geo. Cav; W. M. Chenault, 6th Texas Cav; Lafayette Norman, 5th Tenn Inf; William Wells, Ala. Cav; John H. Daniel, 6th Texas Cav; Isaiiah Weston, 3d Ill. Inf; Samuel C. Hale, Tenn Cav; Ernest C. C. Dreyesse, Ord. Dept; Abner B. Sherwood, 5th Texas Cav; Thomas J. Ferguson, 1st Tenn. Inf; J. McKinney, 2d Texas Cav; George A. Wilson, 8th Texas Cav; Robert Foster, 8th Texas Cav; William Bohis, 7th Texas Cav; Abraham Harris, 8th Inf; J. E. Pelham, 2d Texas Cav; Win-gate H. Woodley, 2d Texas Cav; Albert H. Rippetoe, 2d Lt. 4th Ala. Inf; Absalom M. Sauls, 2d Lt. 1st Geo. Inf; Archer B. Johnson, 2d Ill. Inf; T. Jefferson Peak, Ky. Cav; James A. McQueen, 2d Miss. Inf; A. K. Van Sickle, 2d Texas Cav; Ephraim McLean, Lt. Col. 4th Texas Inf; S. G. Swan, Tenn. Cav; George Adams, 4th Ala. Inf; Henry Seeligson, 4th Tex Inf; Augustin J. Byrd, 3d Drag; Ralph L. Graves, Asst. Surg; W. J. W. Hanson, 2d Ga. Inf; Greenberry H. Maxey, 1st Tenn. Inf; George H. Giddings, 8th Texas Cav.

**VIRGINIA:** James F. Milligan, Mid. U S Navy; J. Fullerton, Navy. John Topping, 10th Inf; Alexander Smith, 4th Art; James O. Moss, Va. Inf; \*William Merritt; John L. Redette, 10th La. Inf.

**WEST VIRGINIA:** Martin L. Dorn, 2d N. Y. Inf.

**WISCONSIN:** Henry Kempell, 10th Inf.

## SYNOPSIS OF PROCEEDINGS OF THE MEETING OF OFFICERS, WASHINGTON, D. C., FEBRUARY 22, 1876.

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THE meeting of officers of the National Association took place on the 22d of February, 1876, in accordance with the resolution of the convention of 1875. Thirty-one States and the Army and Navy were represented by their respective officers or duly appointed proxies. The selection of an ORATOR FOR THE CENTENNIAL MEETING was the first business considered. The committee charged with this duty reported their non-success in obtaining the services of either Gen. R. Patterson or Gen. G. W. Morgan, who had been solicited to perform this duty. The correspondence with those gentlemen was read.

The committee was discharged and the convention went into committee of the whole to nominate an orator, resulting in the naming of three gentlemen from whom the President was authorized to select. [The President subsequently selected Gen. Thomas T. Crittenden, of Washington, D. C.]

### COMMITTEE OF ARRANGEMENTS.

Col. W. L. Schley, of Maryland, addressed the meeting urging the importance of having an active, energetic committee in charge of the general arrangements of the Centennial meeting to be held in Philadelphia on the 4th of July, and moved that the President be authorized to appoint such committee. The President, after consultation, announced the following as the committee to have full authority in the premises: Col. Wm. Louis Schley, Chairman; Col. Joseph H. Ruddoch, Baltimore, Md.; General Oden Bowie, Baltimore, Md.; Colonel Robert Klotz, Pennsylvania; Captain Wm. J. Mackey, Pennsylvania.

### FINANCES—TRANSPORTATION, ETC.

Capt. S. V. Niles, Treasurer, and member of Finance Committee, reported receipts from assessments by the Finance Committee and disbursements to date. [The receipts in detail will be found further along in the Secretary's and Treasurer's reports.]

The Secretary read correspondence had with Colonel Thomas A. Scott of the Texas Pacific Railway, and C. P. Huntington, Esq., of the Central Pacific Railroad, in regard to free transportation of veterans to the Centennial Celebration. Referred to Committee of Arrangements.

### THE MEDAL BADGES.

President Denver on behalf of the Committee on the MEDAL BADGES, struck in accordance with the design adopted by the National Association, reported the means adopted to enable the Committee to fulfill their duties. He said it was deemed very important to have this insignia of membership distributed prior to the meeting in Philadelphia, in order to distinguish members from imposters who would be likely to assume the character of "veterans" for the sake of obtaining privileges from railroad companies and the centennial authorities. The President and Secretary had visited Philadelphia and made arrangements with the Director of the Mint to engrave the die and strike the medals in that establishment. The following letter had been sent to President Grant:

WASHINGTON, D. C., November 4th, 1875.

GEN. U. S. GRANT, President of the United States:

The undersigned have the honor to invite the attention of your Excellency to the engraved frontispiece of the pamphlet herewith enclosed, showing the design of a badge adopted by the delegates representing surviving soldiers and sailors of the Mexican war, at their annual meeting in this city in February last. A detailed description of the proposed badge, with the

names of the committee submitting it, will be found on pp. 30 and 31 of the book. It is to be the insignia of membership of the National Association, and is intended to commemorate some of the historical events of the Mexican war. The engraving of the die and the casting of the medals has been undertaken by Dr. H. R. Linderman, Director of the U. S. Mint, under a law of Congress authorizing work of this character.

Last Winter, during the closing days of the 42d Congress, a resolution was submitted to the House of Representatives donating four pieces of bronze cannon captured from the Mexican forces, to be used in fabricating the proposed medals; but consideration of the resolution required unanimous consent, under the rules of the House, and a single objection (probably given unadvisedly) carried the subject over the time of the session.

Frequent inquiries have been made of the undersigned committee in regard to when these medals will be ready for distribution, and, with an earnest desire to gratify the wishes of the members of the Association to be supplied with these badges before our next meeting, (July 4th, 1876, at Philadelphia,) we respectfully request you to direct the Honorable the Secretary of War to deliver to the Director of the Mint, at Philadelphia, the bronze cannon referred to, which we think would undoubtedly have been voted by Congress but for the circumstance alluded to above.

Assuming that the great favor asked of you is clearly within the province of the Executive, and feeling assured that your Excellency is in sympathy with the object of the Association, we have the honor to subscribe ourselves, Very respectfully, &c.,

J. W. DENVER, President *N. A. V. M. W.*

A. M. KENADAY, *Secretary.*

WAR DEPARTMENT, WASHINGTON CITY, November 5, 1875.

GEN. J. W. DENVER, *Pres't Ass'n Veterans Mexican War, Wash'n, D. C.:*

GENERAL: The President has referred to me your communication of the 3d inst., concerning the cannon that you desire furnished in order that medals referred to in your letter may be made. In reply, I have to state that I have to-day directed the Chief of Ordnance to furnish four bronze cannon for the purpose named.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

(Signed) W. W. BELKNAP, *Secretary of War.*

Circulars describing the medal badge had been printed and forwarded to every known veteran of the war with Mexico, setting forth the terms on which the same could be furnished to those who desired this memento of service and insignia of membership. Satisfactory evidence of service had to be filed in every case before the badge could issue.

The entire action of the Committee was sustained by the Convention, which, after some further unimportant business, (most of which has been published and distributed to members in another form,) adjourned.

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## PRELIMINARY MEETING OF MEMBERS AT THE BELMONT HOTEL, PHILADELPHIA.

By direction of the Committee of Arrangements the headquarters of the National Association were located at the "Belmont Hotel," kept by a Baltimore firm, on Forty-first street, West Philadelphia, owing to an unfortunate failure of the Committee to obtain tents for quarters at "Camp Scott," as had been widely advertised. The accommodations at the hotel were not satisfactory in point of comfort and cost, to many of the members arriving, and as a consequence large numbers sought quarters elsewhere. A register was opened at the Belmont, however, by the Secretary, in which most of the members as they arrived in the city recorded their names. An informal meeting of members present was held on the evening of July 3d, at which some indignation was expressed at what seemed to be gross neglect on the part of the Committee of Arrangements in the selection of accommodations, and, also, in not obtaining proper recognition of the Association in the programme of exercises on the 4th. No member of the Committee being present to reply to these complaints, Gen. E. R. Biles, marshal of the Association, said that, so far as Major Klotz and Capt. Mackey were concerned, they ought not to be held responsible for the mismanagement, as those gentlemen had never been conferred with, nor any duties assigned them by the head of the Committee at Baltimore. But so far as recognition of the Association by the authorities was concerned, he clearly explained some of the difficulties under which the Committee would have labored even if they had put in an appearance at Philadelphia. There was really no concert of action, he said, between the Centennial Commission and the city authorities in

regard to a general celebration of the Fourth. The City Council had provided for a torchlight procession of local civic societies on the night of the 3d of July, while the Centennial Board of Managers had only provided for a parade of the uniformed militia on the 4th, with literary exercises at Independence Hall. The "SCOTT LEGION" of Philadelphia, however, had arranged a plan, which General Biles submitted to the members present, hoping it would meet their approval, which was for the members of the National Association to assemble at the Public Buildings on Broad street, at 10 o'clock on the morning of the 4th, then proceed in a body to Assembly Hall, (carriages being provided by the Scott Legion for those unable to walk,) where an address of welcome would be delivered by Comrade JOHN DOLMAN, of the Scott Legion, who had been selected for the purpose; after which the members could disperse for the day to witness other festivities, according to their several tastes and inclinations. Then, after a night's rest, the Association could meet on the morning of the 5th at Assembly Hall, which had been engaged for them, organize, and transact such business as properly pertained to the occasion, and adjourn, so as to enable members who had come a long distance from their homes to improve the time of their visit by sight-seeing, and partaking of such social entertainment as Philadelphians could afford.

The proposition of Comrade Biles met with general favor from many of the more thoughtful members present. The heat was intense—the thermometer ranging high in the nineties—and most of the members were greatly fatigued from their long and dusty rides from Texas and California. A torchlight procession through the crowded streets of the city on the night of the 3d would have probably marred the enjoyment of many of the older men on the succeeding day; while parading in company with the uniformed military under a scorching sun on the 4th, without any previous drilling or preparation, would have most likely resulted in a failure for the veterans, in ostentatious display at least.

There were those present, however, whose patriotic ardor had not entirely oozed out through their pores by the stress of sunshine; who had looked forward with something akin to boyish enthusiasm to this Centennial anniversary of the ever-glorious Fourth; and who deemed it a bounden duty—notwithstanding the attendance in Philadelphia, on that day, of hundreds of more or less pretentious organizations from all parts of the country, and a million of strangers who could not, perhaps, at a distance of twenty yards distinguish the Mexican veterans from a temperance society—a solemn duty these thought they owed to posterity to occupy the front seats on an unshaded platform, to hear a prayer, a poem, an oration, and "Hail Columbia," by a German brass band—all of which (excepting "Hail Columbia" and the German brass band) could be enjoyed much more rationally by the expenditure of two cents for a morning paper on the succeeding day.

But a resolution offered by Comrade Sherman, of Nevada, directing President Denver, Vice President Love, and the Secretary, to wait upon President Hawley with the above object in view, was passed *nemine contradicente*, and the committee started in pursuit of that gentleman forthwith, who, it has been estimated, was on that day chased by five thousand "committees" in pursuit of passes to the platform for distinguished personages. Our indefatigable committee, however, finally cornered the President of the Commission, and elicited from him the following polite response to their request for platform accommodations:

INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITION, 1876.  
Office of the President U. S. Centennial Commission,

PHILADELPHIA, July 3, 1876.

**GENTLEMEN:** I would most gladly invite the whole Association of Mexican War Veterans, but it is wholly out of my power. The platform is so much occupied by the orchestra and chorus, and by the authorities of Pennsylvania and Philadelphia, that only about 1,250 seats were left to the Commission, and we were to invite to these the Cabinet, Supreme Court, both Houses of Congress, the Diplomatic Corps, the Governors and Staffs of the States, the Foreign Commissioners to the Exhibition, the judges of the Exhibition (250 in number) and many State Commissioners, &c., &c. We did the best we could.

I send you twenty tickets to the platform, with the assurance that it is the largest number given to any association. Very few indeed have been given save to persons in official position.

With great respect, your obedient servant,

JOS. R. HAWLEY, President of Commissioners,

General J. W. DENVER, and others,

Officers Mexican War Veterans Association.

This result was not satisfactory to the meeting. As they could not participate in the public exercises in a body, it was decided by those present to not divide their forces by accepting the tickets, and the programme suggested by Marshal Biles was adopted as the order of the day. Comrade Sherman was appointed by General Biles an assistant marshal for the following morning, and orders were given by the President to assemble at the public buildings on Broad street at 10 a. m. as before stated.

### Reception and Address of Welcome by the Scott Legion of Philadelphia.

The morning of the ever-glorious Fourth dawned clear and beautiful beyond description. The booming of cannon, the clangor of a hundred bells pealing and chiming from as many glittering church-spires, the racket of innumerable small arms and myriads of Chinese crackers, were followed by a sunburst of transcendent splendor on the eastern horizon, where old Sol arose majestically into the blue canopy overhead, seemingly anxious to witness the Centennial jubilee of American Freedom on our Occidental Continent. The patriotic imagination could easily, and pardonably on such an occasion, conjure up to the mind's eye the spirits of the Heroes of '76, in the imperial train of the God of Day, arrayed in their Continental garb, and looking down benignly on the worldly tribe of their offspring; following the revolutionary host, an innumerable caravan of devoted patriots, intermediate the present generation, who also contributed by their valor and intellectual gifts to the growth and development of the Republic. The city wherein we were assembled, and all the historical surroundings, tended to stir up the patriotic emotions which slumber in unsentimental breasts during the hurry-scurry of every day life. On almost every face one met on the street a look of proud satisfaction gleamed, and often found expression in friendly greeting with neighbor or comrade. The lately hostile "Reb." grasped the horny hand of the "Boy in Blue" in glad felicitation that they were there to see that day and rejoice again together as of yore. As a general rule the kindest feeling prevailed.

At 10 o'clock the veterans assembled at the Broad street rendezvous, according to the order, and proceeded—some in carriages and the remainder afoot—to Assembly Hall, where they found Col. A. H. Reynolds, President, with the officers and members of the Scott Legion awaiting their arrival. After the crowd became seated, Comrade JOHN DOLMAN was introduced and delivered the following address:

#### HON. JOHN DOLMAN'S ADDRESS.

COMPRADE! Brave soldiers of the hard fought battles and brilliant victories of the Mexican war: We your brothers-in-arms, welcome you to the City of Brotherly Love! Broad and far-reaching as our common country is, the inventive brain of man has made it now possible to gather from every state of the Union in a week's time. One hundred years ago is the extent of our history as one of the nations of the earth; and nearly one-third of that century has elapsed since we enacted those scenes in which we shared, and which read now like a fairy tale.

As the result of that contest, bright stars have already been added to our flag, and a rich and vast domain to our country. Mines of gold and silver, at which the famous mines of Ophir sink into insignificance; cedars, beside which the "Cedars of Lebanon" become dwarfs; and fruits of the earth never before equalled.

Joy unspeakable and indescribable does it give us, to see so many of the heroes who stand out prominent in history as the only soldiers who carried the Star-spangled Banner upon a foreign soil, and never were defeated in a single battle, though always fighting against odds. Many—~~as~~! many indeed—are not here this day, because their brave hearts are cold and crumbling beneath the sod. O! what would they not have given to have been spared to see this great and glorious day of the land they loved and fought for. But to see so many here reunited is a sight to gladden the coldest nature, and is worth a lifetime of waiting. [Applause.]

Welcome, ye heroes, from the East and from the West, from the North and from the South! Welcome, ye braves, from the Pacific shore, from California, Oregon, Nevada and Colorado—part of that territory which the success of your arms secured to the land of liberty! Welcome, ye veterans from the Lone Star State—the bright jewel Mexico would vainly have worn upon her own forehead, when she swore that that Lone Star should never glitter among the brilliant galaxy which adorns the flag of our Union. [Applause.] How well that oath was kept—how well that windý boast was carried out, the history of the Mexican war can tell. Go to the great metropolis of the Pacific coast, listen to the busy hum of industry, see the riches of the Indies flowing in upon us through the Golden Gate, and think of the time when we stood shoulder to shoulder, and San Francisco was a mere collection of adobe huts. No sectional

strife had then arisen, no division of North and South. And now, to-day, speaking to brothers of all sections, to those upon each side of the late civil war, I venture to assert that not one here but will join with me in thanking God that the sun which shines upon this great and glorious day, looks down upon an undivided country! [Loud applause.] Yea, I will go further and assert that among the veterans of the Mexican war--no matter which side they were on in the war between the North and South, **THE LOVE OF THE OLD FLAG NEVER WAS DEAD IN THEIR HEARTS!** [Enthusiastic applause and cheers.] In the very height and madness of the strife "Lazarus was not dead, but sleeping;" and since then the angel has descended, rolled away the stone from the mouth of the tomb, and we are now amidst the glory of a new re-urrection. Brother rose up against brother, and gave bloody and gaping wounds; but the strife and madness have passed, the wounds have healed, and though the scars remain, yet the sight of those scars, given and received by and from brothers, will only increase the love and devotion for the country and her free institutions which have cost so much. [Sensation.] And our country and form of government are deserving of our love, for she is blessed above every other nation. So long as public virtue remains, so long as the people hold the reins and do not give them up to the mere politicians of party, she will go on fulfilling the great and glorious destiny that is before her, a star of hope to the oppressed and down-trodden of the whole world, a light to illuminate the darkest corners of the earth with the blessed light of freedom and the Christian doctrine of the brotherhood of man. [Applause.]

Friends, fellow-soldiers! I will not weary you, with the temperature as it is now. [Cries of "Go on!"] Speech is silver, but silence is golden. The tongue can but feebly express the feelings of the heart at any time; but now, had I the tongue of an angel, had my lips been touched by a coal of fire from the altar of Eloquence, even then I could not picture the emotions caused by this reunion. We can gaze upon the form and features, changed by relentless time; we can see the eye gleam; we can feel the magnetism of the clasp of manly hands, but the swelling heart, and the whirling feelings therein, cannot be described.

Conscious of the inadequacy of language, we of the Philadelphia organization heartily welcome you! And trust that the Bountiful Giver of all good gifts, the Good Father who has made and preserved us a nation, and permitted us to be reunited after a separation, to many, of nearly thirty years; that He may spare your lives for many years to come, and that those years may be sweetened by all of happiness allowed to man upon earth, is the sincere wish of every member of the Scott Legion of Philadelphia. [Enthusiastic applause.]

At the conclusion of comrade DOLMAN'S remarks, who was warmly congratulated by his fellow members, General J. W. DENVER, President of the National Association, responded on behalf of the visitors, thanking the Scott Legion for their courtesy and for the fraternal greeting extended to members by the eloquent organ of the Legion, who had just been heard with so much pleasure. He thought he would be excused if he made no extended remarks, and suggested that the order be given to "break ranks," to enable members to pursue pleasure in their own way, and assemble in Convention on the morrow at 10 a.m.

MEETING  
OF THE  
NATIONAL ASSOCIATION,  
WEDNESDAY, JULY 5, 1876.

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At 10 o'clock a large proportion of the members who had arrived in Philadelphia and reported their names to the Secretary at headquarters, were present in Assembly Hall, but many were absent who subsequently reported, and declared their inability (being strangers in the city) to find the place of assemblage.

President J. W. DENVER called the members to order and announced the general purpose had in view by calling this mass meeting of the membership. It was in accordance with the terms of the resolution of the Association organized at Washington city in the spring of 1873, which called the national body into existence. That resolution was as follows :

*Resolved*, That an invitation is hereby extended by this association to the veterans of the Mexican war throughout the country, now organized or hereafter to be enrolled in associations, to send two or more delegates, in person or by proxy, to a national convention to be held in Washington City on January 15, 1874, to prepare a joint memorial to Congress for a pension to the survivors of the Mexican war, at the same rate allowed by the act of February 14, 1871, granting pensions to the soldiers and sailors of the war of 1812; also to adopt measures looking to a National Brotherhood of the survivors, and a general assemblage on the occasion of the centennial anniversary of the nation's birthday, at Philadelphia, July 4, 1876.

The objects above set forth have been accomplished to some extent, though much remains undone. We have held two national conventions since that resolution was promulgated, and a general meeting of the officers of the Association last February. We are assembled now as a mass meeting, more for the purpose of cultivating fraternal relations than for the transaction of business, although we have some business of a routine character to perform. The meeting here in Philadelphia, on this memorable occasion, will illustrate that the hearts of the men who, at their country's call thirty years ago, penetrated to the heated sands of torrid Mexico, beat as patriotically now as then, and he hoped for the honor and successful issue of the cause in which we are combined together, that in future years the men of all sections of our common country will meet with the same general good feeling, and fraternize in the same harmonious manner that has hitherto characterized the conventions of the veterans of Mexico.

The PRESIDENT directed Secretary KENADAY to call the roll of members present.

It was moved that a Committee on Credentials be appointed.

Major A. J. Dallas, J. C. Nuttman and L. F. Beeler were designated by the Chair to examine the names enrolled by the Secretary.

As the members had been grouped on the temporary roll according to the States in which they reside, (instead of by regiments, &c., as will probably be the rule when the indexes are completed,) an invitation was extended to hand up to the Secretary the names of any members who had not yet reported their names, with a statement of service in the Mexican war.

Under this invitation a number of names were added to the list without any statement of service attached thereto.

The list being handed to the Committee, was returned with report recommending that all survivors of the Mexican war present be allowed to participate in the reunion.

The Secretary made a suggestion that in the published proceedings the names of persons on the roll who had filed no statement of service should be excluded therefrom. The proposition was rejected by a rising vote—54 to 52. [A number of members who voted in the affirmative subsequently stated to the Secretary that they voted against the proposition under the erroneous impression that it was designed to exclude those persons who had not filed their statements from seats in the meeting.]

The list of persons present at the meeting, and of those who arrived too late to take part in the proceedings, (but who, nevertheless, incurred the expense of the trip and intended to be at the meeting,) will be found on pages 5-6.

Under the rules the next business was the appointment of a Committee to nominate officers for the ensuing year.

A motion was made, and no objection being offered, prevailed, that the members from each State, and the Army and Navy, select one of their number to represent that State, &c., on the nominating committee. By this process the following gentlemen were selected as a

COMMITTEE ON NOMINATIONS.

<i>U. S. Army</i> . . . . .	Jefferson C. Davis	<i>Minnesota</i> . . . . .	Lafayette H. Bunnell
<i>U. S. Navy</i> . . . . .	Alex. J. Dallas	<i>Mississippi</i> . . . . .	Thomas P. Young
<i>California</i> . . . . .	Georg. W. Ross	<i>Missouri</i> . . . . .	J. S. Warmoth
<i>Canada</i> . . . . .	Abraham DeFayette	<i>Nevada</i> . . . . .	Clark Potter
<i>Colorado</i> . . . . .	Samuel M. Logan	<i>New Jersey</i> . . . . .	Francis D. Clark
<i>Dist. Columbia</i> . . . . .	Daniel Smith	<i>New York</i> . . . . .	William Colligan
<i>Georgia</i> . . . . .	William T. Wofford	<i>North Carolina</i> . . . . .	James Reilly
<i>Illinois</i> . . . . .	Henry Lash	<i>Ohio</i> . . . . .	John Conwell
<i>Indiana</i> . . . . .	John Love	<i>Pennsylvania</i> . . . . .	Ephraim W. Banks
<i>Iowa</i> . . . . .	Nicholas Gressel	<i>South Carolina</i> . . . . .	George Oppel
<i>Kentucky</i> . . . . .	John J. Landgran	<i>Tennessee</i> . . . . .	J. C. Wright
<i>Louisiana</i> . . . . .	Edward Ross	<i>Texas</i> . . . . .	S. K. Holland
<i>Maryland</i> . . . . .	Louis F. Beeler	<i>Virginia</i> . . . . .	James O. Moss
<i>Massachusetts</i> . . . . .	Henry W. McGlenen	<i>West Virginia</i> . . . . .	Martin L. Dorn
<i>Michigan</i> . . . . .	Daniel McConnell	<i>Wisconsin</i> . . . . .	Henry Kempell

The Committee organized by electing General John Love, chairman, and Major A. J. Dallas, clerk.

On motion of Col. W. L. SCHLEY, further business under the rules was suspended to hear the oration of General Thomas T. Crittenden.

The PRESIDENT then introduced the orator of the day, General T. T. CRITTENDEN, who served in the Mexican war as a 2d Lieutenant in Willock's battalion of Missouri cavalry.

ORATION OF GENERAL T. T. CRITTENDEN OF WASHINGTON, D. C.

*Veterans and Comrades of the Mexican War:*

On the centennial birthday of our glorious Republic, we, survivors of those who have so largely extended its borders, meet to celebrate that wonderful event, the birth of a free nation.

We meet in the City of Brotherly Love where Independence Hall and its bell, which first "proclaimed liberty throughout the land to all the inhabitants thereof," remind us of that glorious band of Patriots, who periled lands, liberty and life when they published the immortal Declaration of Independence. A hundred years have passed away. The youngest of us is half a century old. We can look back to the days of our youth, when the Fourth of July was greatest of all the days of the year. Well do we remember the gorgeous military parades, the great gatherings of the patriotic multitudes, and the eloquent orations which adorned those celebrations. Above all, our memories of those bygone days bring forth the forms of very old men, dressed in ancient and curious costume, tottering with age; honored old men, whose

feeble steps were greatly aided by stalwart youth to mount the platform and take the highest seat. Venerable men were these, the wrecks of heroes of the armies of the Revolution, whom time had spared and whom the people delighted to honor. But time moved on and not one was left among us. They still live, however, embalmed in history, teaching us by their noble example.

They were successful, but their freedom, which we inherit, was paid for in blood, precious blood, of men who preferred death to slavery. Of such, it can be said.

"Men never fail, who die in a good cause,  
The block may soak their gore,  
Their heads may sodden in the sun,  
Their limbs be strong to city gates and castle walls.  
But still their spirit walks abroad."

By lessons like these, imbibed in youth from them and from the veterans of our second war of independence, we were fitted to do our parts and "quit us like men" when manhood and its duties to our country required us to be her soldiers on her battle-fields.

It is my design in this address to give a view of each battle of the Mexican war, not in detail as to names of those who nobly fought or gloriously died upon those bloody fields, but only such glimpses as will recall the natural features of each battle-field, the military organizations and their commanders, together with the key points and the decisive movements which gave victory to our armies. In short it is proposed to present a bird's-eye view of each battle. Faithful efforts have been made to prepare a simple and impartial account, but in the description of so many battles, there will naturally occur some mistakes and errors for which I beg your kind indulgence. These battle views are not to refresh your memories—for of your lives the Mexican war is an imperishable part—but rather to recall to the notice of a not too grateful republic, the deeds done in youth by us who, after thirty years, are the representatives and veterans of the armies which "conquered a peace" upon the soil of Mexico. Of course in an address of such limited space, the many severe marches, the guerrilla fights, the brilliant skirmishes and the heroic deeds done by our men elsewhere than in pitched battles, must remain untold.

The canvas has room upon it only to paint those fields where masses of men contended in the high arbitrament of arms for results, by which the destinies of the contending nations were decided. To us the victory was given, and in our hands its fruits have been worthily enjoyed.

Our armies operated upon three lines and were known as "The Army of the West" commanded by General Stephen W. Kearny, "The Army of Occupation" under the command of General Zachary Taylor and "The Army" commanded by General Winfield Scott.

The achievements of each army will, for convenience, be narrated in the above order.

#### "THE ARMY OF THE WEST"

Was composed of two regiments and a battalion of mounted men, one battalion of infantry and one of artillery, all volunteers from the state of Missouri, and about 200 regular dragoons; the entire force numbered about 2,500 men commanded by General Stephen W. Kearny.

By an energetic march of 800 miles from Fort Leavenworth to Santa Fe, New Mexico was conquered without a blow. Dividing his forces at Santa Fe, General Kearny with 150 dragoons marched to California, fought the hotly contested battle of San Pasqual, and united his forces with the California battalion and the sailors and marines from the United States squadron, commanded by Commodore Stockton.

On the Pacific coast, our fleet, under Commodore Stockton, on the 6th of July, 1846, took possession of Monterey. On the 23d of July, Commodore Stockton assumed command of the naval forces, and on the 13th of August, being joined by Fremont's California battalion, entered Los Angeles. On the 8th of January, 1847, General Kearny and Commodore Stockton, with 500 men, chiefly sailors and marines from the fleet, with 60 dragoons and a company of California volunteers, attacked the Mexicans under General Flores at San Gabriel. The Mexican force numbered 600. By a spirited attack the enemy was driven from the field and pursued with vigor. The next day our forces attacked again and completely dispersed them.

In November, 1846, Col. Doniphan with his own regiment, (1st Missouri,) 100 men from the 2d Missouri, and two companies of the Missouri artillery battalion, numbering 1,150 volunteers began his celebrated march from Santa Fe to Taos.

On the 25th of December, 1846, part of Col. Doniphan's command was attacked at Brazito by 1,200 Mexicans, and after a brisk fight of 20 minutes the Mexicans were badly whipped.

On the 28th of February, Doniphan's forces fought the battle of Sacramento, near the city of Chihuahua. The Mexicans numbered about 4,000 men, and the engagement, though brief, was severe. The enemy were routed, 300 killed, a large number wounded and captured and all their artillery taken. The next day the city of Chihuahua fell into our hands and from there our victorious column renewed its wonderful march through the heart of northern Mexico and ended it at Taos on the 22d of May, 1847.

The object of this movement was to join hands with General Wool's column, which had been ordered to proceed from San Antonio, Texas, to Chihuahua, but the order had been revoked and General Wool's force was united with General Taylor's. This change of direction was unknown to Doniphan until he had entered the State of Chihuahua, and then he had to choose between retracing his steps to Santa Fe or daring the dangers of an advance through unknown foes, thereby forming a junction with Taylor's army, wheresoever that might chance to be. With the instinct of a true soldier, he dared the advance and achieved a march to glory comparable only with Xenophon's celebrated retreat of the Ten Thousand.

On the 19th of January, 1847, Gov. Charles Bent, with other Americans, were massacred in Taos, New Mexico, and an insurrection previously planned broke out simultaneously in

several places; about 2,000 Mexicans concentrated 25 miles north of Santa Fe. Col. Sterling Price, leaving a garrison in that place, marched out with 300 Missouri volunteers, (of the 2d regiment, the infantry and artillery,) and a company of New Mexicans, with four mountain howitzers, and on the 2<sup>nd</sup> of January vigorously attacked the enemy at Cananea and after an obstinate resistance, routed them at all points. The Mexicans fell back rapidly towards Taos. Our troops reinforced by 100 regulars (2d Dragoons) and 50 volunteers of the 2d Missouri, pursued them with energy, punished them severely in a partial action at El Embudo, and on the 4<sup>th</sup> of February, after a severe battle of two days duration, obtained a complete victory over them at Taos. Col. Price's march from Santa Fe to Taos was in the dead of winter, over mountainous roads covered with snow, the cold was intense and men were actually frozen to death.

On the 2<sup>nd</sup> of January, Capt. Henley with 200 Missouri volunteers attacked a force of Mexicans at Mori, New Mexico, and inflicted severe loss upon them. Unfortunately at the moment of victory Henley fell. Thus hostilities were ended in New Mexico, but the Army of the West is entitled to mention among its achievements the victory of Santa Cruz de las Rosales. There on the 16<sup>th</sup> of March, 1848, General Sterling Price, with 250 men, attacked and defeated 900 Mexicans, killing 235, capturing Governor Trias, 42 officers and 11 pieces of artillery. This was the last action of the war.

#### "THE ARMY OF OCCUPATION,"

As it was called, under the command of General Taylor was composed entirely of regular troops. It was stationed during the spring of 1846 between the rivers Nueces and Rio Grande to assert and protect our rights to the Rio Grande as the true boundary of the State of Texas, then recently annexed to the United States.

For weeks before war was declared, the air was full of rumors of hostilities, and occasional collisions did occur between the troops of the two Republics.

On the 8<sup>th</sup> of May, 1846, at Palo Alto, the first battle of the war was fought. The American force numbering 2,300 men of all arms, with ten pieces of artillery, met 6,000 Mexicans, commanded by General Arista, and drove them from the field. On the next day the Mexicans reinforced by 2,000 men, made a stand at Resaca de la Palma and were totally defeated.

General Taylor, in his report of these battles, said, "It was met near this place (Palo Alto) yesterday, on my march from Point Isabel, by the Mexican forces, and after an action of about five hours, dislodged them from their position and encamped upon the field. Our artillery, consisting of two 18 pounders and two light batteries, was the arm chiefly engaged, and to the excellent manner in which it was manœuvred and served is our success mainly due. The strength of the enemy is believed to have been about 6,000 men, with seven pieces of artillery and 800 cavalry. His loss is probably at least 100 killed. Our strength did not exceed all told 2,300, while our loss was comparatively trifling—4 men killed, 3 officers and 37 men wounded.

In the late of this report, I can only say that the officers and men behaved in the most admirable manner throughout the action."

At Resaca de la Palma General Taylor said, "When near the spot where I am now encamped my advance discovered that a ravine crossing the road had been occupied by the enemy with artillery. I immediately ordered a battery of field artillery to sweep the position, flanking and sustaining it by the 3d, 4th, and 5th regiments, deployed as skirmishers to the right and left. A heavy fire of artillery and musketry was kept up for some time, until finally the enemy's batteries were carried in succession by a squadron of dragoons and the regiments of infantry that were on the ground. He was soon driven from his position and pursued by a squadron of dragoons, battalion of infantry, 3d infantry and a light battery, to the river. Our victory has been complete. Eight pieces of artillery, three standards and some one hundred prisoners have been taken; among the latter, General La Vega and several other officers. The enemy has recrossed the river. Their loss in killed has been most severe; our own has been heavy. The affair of to-day may be regarded as a proper supplement to the cannonade of yesterday; and the two taken together, exhibit the coolness and gallantry of our officers and men in the most favorable light. All have done their duty and done it nobly."

The field work opposite Matamoros (Fort Brown) sustained itself handsomely during a bombardment of a hundred and sixty hours.

General Taylor followed the Mexicans across the Rio Grande and took possession of Matamoras where he awaited the reinforcements which were speedily organized and sent to his command. The new troops were both regulars and volunteers.

Leaving sufficient forces to protect his communications General Taylor moved from Camargo upon Monterey on the 5<sup>th</sup> of September, 1846. His army consisted of 3,200 regulars, composed of the 1st, 3d, 4th, 5th, 7th and 8th regiments of infantry, 4 companies of the 2d dragoons and five batteries, and of 3,400 volunteers, composed of the 1st regiments from Ohio, Kentucky, Mississippi and Tennessee, Hays' and Henderson's Texas regiments, and the Maryland and District of Columbia battalions. These formed three divisions commanded by Generals Worth, Butler and Twiggs.

To oppose this army of 6,600 men General Ampudia had in garrison in Monterey 7,000 regulars and 3,000 militia, well supplied with artillery and defended by fortifications of considerable strength.

On the 20<sup>th</sup> of September, General Worth, with his division and Hays' regiment of Texans, made a flank march through the cornfields north of the city. On the 21<sup>st</sup> this movement was continued to the Saltillo road, west and in rear of Monterey, routing on the way some 1,500 Mexican lancers, who attacked them. Worth then vigorously assaulted and carried the fortifications on Federacion Hill and Fort Soldado. The effect of this day's operations in the west side of Monterey had been to close the retreat of the enemy, to beat him severely in several attacks, and to secure an important position which looked into the rear of the town.

During the same day, at the east side of the city, Twiggs' division, under Garland, assaulted Forts Diablo and Teheria. Butler's division supported this attack, and the battle became general in that part of the city. The streets were barricaded, the houses loopholed and fort

fied. Our men advanced and bravely fought against unseen foes in forts and houses and on azoteas. Our loss was heavy and we were often driven back, but again and again rallied and renewed the fight. The effect of this day's operations on the east side was, that we captured and held Fort Teneria and a portion of the town adjoining it. On the 22d we held this position under continued fire from Fort Diablo. On this day Worth's division assaulted and captured Fort Independence and the Bishop's Palace. These two points completely commanded the western part of Monterey and their possession insured our entrance into the town from this direction. On the 23d, active operations were early resumed, both on the east and west sides, our whole force being engaged. The firing was incessant during the day from the streets, houses and roofs, and our men actually dug their way through from house to house. At nightfall we had taken and held possession of the greater part of the city, and thus confined the Mexicans to the defence of the Citadel and the Plaza. That night Gen. Ampudia sent propositions to General Taylor, which, after some negotiation, resulted in the surrender of Monterey.

The number of Mexicans who fell cannot be accurately known, as the operations were so varied and the points of attack so numerous; but it can be safely set down at over 1,000. Our loss was 120 men killed, and 368 wounded. The brilliantly successful attacks upon the western forts and the Bishop's Palace by Worth's forces, the tremendous assaults upon the eastern defences of the city by Butler's and Twiggs' divisions, and the deadly hand-to-hand combats in the streets and houses, were familiar and household stories in those days.

After the capture of Monterey, General Taylor had advanced beyond Saltillo. In December, 1846, all of the regular infantry had been withdrawn from his army for service under General Scott. Taylor's army, thus reduced, were posted on the 22d of February, 1847, at Angosturas, near the Rancho of Buena Vista. It consisted entirely of volunteers, except two squadrons of the 2d dragoons, and three regular batteries, and numbered only 4,759 men of all arms. Here it finally prepared to resist Santa Anna and 20,000 of the flower of the Mexican army.

#### THE FIELD OF BUENA VISTA

Was selected by Generals Taylor and Wool, for its special defensive value. The formation of the ground was such as nearly to paralyze the artillery and cavalry of the enemy while his infantry could not reap all the advantages of its numerical superiority. The road at Angosturas becomes a narrow defile, the valley on its right being rendered impracticable for artillery by deep and impassable ravines, while on the left, rugged ridges and precipitous ravines extend far back towards the mountain which bounds the valley. Washington's battery was posted to command the road, the 1st and 2d Illinois regiments, a company of Texans and the 2d Kentucky occupied the crests of the ridges on the the left and in rear. The Arkansas and Kentucky Cavalry occupied the extreme left, near the base of the mountain, while General Joe Lane, with the 2d and 3d Indiana, the Mississippi Riflemen, two squadrons of regular dragoons, and Sherman and Bragg's batteries were held in reserve. Sharp skirmishing, by parts of the Kentucky and Arkansas Cavalry, dismounted, and a rifle battalion of the 2d and 3d Indiana, was kept up on our left until dark. On the 23d, at daylight, the battle began by an attempt of General Ampudia to outflank our left. The Kentucky cavalry and a battalion of the 2d Illinois maintained their ground handsomely at this point against a greatly superior force. About 8 o'clock a strong demonstration was made against the centre of our position, a heavy column moving along the road. This force was soon dispersed by rapid and well directed shots from Washington's battery.

In the meantime the enemy was concentrating a large force of infantry and cavalry under cover of the ridges, with the obvious intention of forcing our left, which was posted on an extensive plateau. The 2d Indiana and 2d Illinois regiments formed this part of our line, the former covering O'Brien's battery, General Joe Lane being in command. This position was held for some 25 minutes, though our men were exposed to a cross-fire of artillery and to an overwhelming force of infantry in front. Our left flank was thus compelled to withdraw. The enemy were now pouring masses of infantry and cavalry along the base of the mountain and gaining our rear in force. The Mississippi rifles, 3d Indiana, 2d Kentucky and 1st Illinois with a section of Bragg's battery, gallantly drove the enemy and recovered a portion of the ground we had lost. The enemy were several times repulsed with great loss at this point, and this part of the action was warmly sustained for a long time. The lancers of General Torrejon concentrated on our extreme left and charged the Kentucky and Arkansas cavalry near the Rancho of Buena Vista. They were handsomely met and repulsed after a spirited contest, in which they lost heavily. At the base of the mountain the right flank of the enemy was held in check by the Indiana and Arkansas troops and the regular dragoons, while our artillery poured its fire into the Mexicans crowded into the narrow gorges and ravines, doing fearful execution upon them.

It was at this moment that Santa Anna sent in his flag of truce, which induced General Taylor to order our firing to cease; and by this trick part of the Mexicans continued their retreat along the base of the mountain, and in spite of our efforts joined the main body of their army. The last severe attack was made by the enemy bringing his reserves into action against the 1st Illinois and the 2d Kentucky regiments. They engaged a greatly superior force of the enemy, and were almost overwhelmed. The moment was critical. Bragg's battery moved rapidly into action, the Mexicans being only a short distance from him, and, being soon reinforced by the Mississippi and 3d Indiana, the enemy was driven back with great loss. No further attempt was made to force our position. During the night the wounded were removed and preparations made to receive the enemy should he renew the attack.

Thus less than 5,000 American volunteers, with but few regulars, but few of whom had ever seen a stricken field, for more than twelve hours sustained this terrible combat against 20,000 Mexican veterans, defeated them, held the field of battle and reaped the fruits of victory.

The battle of Buena Vista was the last battle and the crowning glory of the Army of Occupation.

#### OPERATIONS OF THE NAVAL AND MILITARY FORCES AT VERA CRUZ.

The forces of the United States designated to operate on the line from Vera Cruz to the City of Mexico, had their rendezvous at the island of Lobos, and proceeded thence to the

shores west of the island of Sacrificios. The anchorage was too narrow for a large number of vessels, and on the 9th of March, 1847, the troops were removed from the transports to the ships of war, commanded by Commodore Conner. The fleet then set sail, the Commodore leading in the flag ship Raritan, and General Scott following in the steamer Massachusetts. The weather was propitious, and the magnificent panorama was full of the "pride, pomp and circumstance of glorious war." The surf boats, 67 in number, manned by experienced seamen of the Navy, were hauled alongside of the ships, and the soldiers with their arms and accoutrements were passed into them. Commodore Conner directed two steamers, the Spitfire and Vixen, with five gun schooners, to anchor in line, abreast of the beach, to cover the landings. The boats reaching the shore in fine style, the troops debarked in good order without opposition, without the loss of a single life or even the slightest accident. For so successful a landing the Navy and Army are justly entitled to great credit. The city of Vera Cruz was soon invested, and five batteries of siege guns planted close to the walls. Nos. 1, 2, 3 and 4 were manned by one Arming, and No. 5 by detachments from the fleet. On the 22d of March, the surrender of the city having been first demanded, the batteries opened their fire and continued it through the day and night. Part of the fleet anchored in line in a small bend formed by Cape Hornos, about a mile from the city walls, and kept up a well directed and destructive fire from their 32 pounders and 5-inch guns. On the 23d all around were in a state of awful activity. The batteries thundered on every side. Commodore Tattnall by order of Commodore Perry, advanced with his "mosquito fleet" of seven small vessels to attack the Castle San Juan. He took position about 50 yards from it and to the astonishment and admiration of both sailors and soldiers, maintained it for half an hour, until recalled by signal, and without having sustained any serious loss. The roar of artillery and the explosion of shells were heard through the streets and in the houses and churches of the city continuously, until the night of the 25th. Arrangement had been made for carrying the city by assault on the 26th, but in the morning of that day General Lanadero made overtures of surrender. On the 29th our troops took possession of the city and the castle.

On the 30th April our army marched forward on the road to the city of Mexico. Santa Anna, despite his lame vista, had traversed the interior provinces with a large part of his army, and now, eager to defend the formidable

#### HIGHTS OF CERRO GORDO.

On the 13th of April our army was in presence of the Mexican army, and for the purpose of a flank march and to close their line of retreat, Scott ordered a road to be cut to the right of the American army, out to the left of Cerro Gordo, which would round the base of the mountain in rear of the Mexican forces, thereby rejoining the Jalapa road behind their entire position. It took three days to do the work, but on the 17th, while approaching the Mexican lines, our working party was discovered and fired upon. A part of Twiss' division under Hinney advanced rapidly into an elevation of the hill and charged the enemy, who could not withstand the impetuosity of our troops. They forced the Mexicans down the steep and up and over the neighboring heights. On the heights in front of Cerro Gordo, and under cover of its guns, the enemy regathered, prepared to stand, but through a storm of grape, canister and musket-balls, the artillerists and men advanced forward and stormed the hill. During the night a battery of one 24 pounder and two 24 pounder howitzers were planted on the captured hill. On the morning of the 18th Stevens pressed forward in the direction of the enemy's left, over rough and rugged rocks to seize the Jalapa road and prevent the escape of fugitives. Our battery opened fire on Cerro Gordo, while Hinney with his command rushed on to storm its heights, and, however, in the bid another breastwork was earned, and then swarming up the walls of the rocks, the men, under the artillerists at their guns and drove the desperate enemy from their entrenchments down the steep sides of the hill in utter rout. Riley's brigade, gaining the heights, came up at the same time, joined in the pursuit. Pillow's command took up its position in front of the river batteries and assaulted them with energy again and again. Similes was now close at hand and succeeded in reaching the Jalapa road, charged the enemy in position thereon and forced them to retreat. We lost 60 killed and 300 wounded, while the enemy's loss was 1,500 men, 100 wounded and 3,000 prisoners. Maj. Gen. Patterson left a sick bed to share in the dangers and fatigues of the day.

Jalapa was taken on the 19th, Puebla on the 22d, and Mexico on the 15th of May. The army assessment of the allied forces, numbered 150,000 men, but on the 15th of May, by garrison, expiration of term of service, discharges and deaths, not more than 5,000 effectives were in hand to march on the city of Mexico. Hence the delay in the forward movement until August.

Successive reinforcements, once veterans, Cadwalader, Pillow and Pierce increased the army to 150,000 men, 20,000 volunteers.

On the 7th of Aug., 1847, General Scott marched from Puebla with this force divided into a cavalry brigades and divisions; the cavalry, commanded by Colonel Hinney, were parts of the 1st, 2d and 3d regiments.

#### FIRST DIVISION, GENERAL WORTH.

1st brigade, Colonel G. W. Worth, 2d and 3d regiments of artillery, 4th infantry and Duncan's battery, 1st brigade, Colonel Clarke, 5th, 6th and 8th infantry.

#### SECOND DIVISION, GENERAL TWISS.

1st brigade, Colonel P. F. Smith, 2d regt. rifle, 1st artillery, 3d infantry, Taylor's battery, 2d brigade, Col. Rodey, 4th artillery, 1st infantry, 7th infantry.

#### THIRD DIVISION, GENERAL PILLOW.

1st brigade, General G. Cadwalader, 6th and 11th infantry and voltigeurs, 2d brigade, Gen. Pierce, 12th, 13th and 14th infantry.

#### FOURTH DIVISION, GENERAL QUITMAN.

1st brigade, Col. J. S. Shuck, 1st South Carolina volunteers, New York volunteers, 2d brigade, 2d Pennsylvania volunteers, detachment of 1st, 8th Marines.

After a few days march the army passed over the crest of the mountains and a splendid panorama lay spread before the eyes of our weary soldiers.

When nearly worn out a sudden turn in the road brought to view a sight which none can ever forget—the whole vast plain of Mexico was before us. The coldness of the air, which was most sensibly felt at this great height, our severe fatigue and the dangers of the near future were all forgotten. Its lofty steeples and checkered domes, its silver lakes and snow-capped volcanoes, presented a view as remarkable for its historic memories as for the grandeur of its natural elements.

El Penon, on the common and only good road from Puebla to Mexico, being almost impregnable, Santa Anna had correctly placed there his principal fortification. The Fortress of Mexicalcingo, being likewise a strong one, and if taken, would leave the American army on a narrow causeway, easily defensible; the Mexican General had, apparently, provided for every possible passage between lakes Chalco and Tezcuco. The van of our army had actually reached Ayotla, on the Puebla road, several miles in front of the south end of Lake Chalco. It then became a practical military question whether Lake Chalco could be turned. It was soon ascertained that a passage existed around the south end of the lake which could be made practicable.

The attempt to advance by the national road was abandoned, and reversing the order of march, Worth's division took the lead, Pillow and Quitman followed, while the division of Twiggs brought up the rear. On the 17th of August the head of General Worth's column reached San Augustine, and in a few hours afterward the other divisions were in supporting distance.

This march around the lake was 27 miles in length, by a route which the Mexicans considered impracticable. On the 18th all the army was in position near San Augustine on the Acapulco road nine miles from the city of Mexico.

The pass of San Antonia being strong, and on a narrow causeway, the plan of attack was to turn San Antonia by

#### TAKING CONTRERAS.

On the 19th the brigades of Smith and Riley (Twiggs' division) supported by those of Cadwalader and Pierce, (Pillow's division,) advanced over the Pedregal and fought vigorously with the enemy until night. Their strong fortifications manned by 22 guns, against which we had but three guns of Magruder's battery, and two small howitzers, the superiority of their numbers and the nature of the ground enabled them to hold us in check and prevent our advance upon their front. At Contreras General Smith saw the immense reserve of Santa Anna, about 10,000 men, forming on the slope on the opposite side of the village, and threatening the brigade of Cadwalader already there in position.

This brigade formed on the outer edge of the village, flanked on the right by the 3d infantry and rifles; Smith occupied the church, while the 11th infantry took position in the garden on the road to protect that avenue and the rear. Shields' and Riley's brigades arrived and the men bivouacked for the night. A route, barely practicable for infantry, had been found from the village through a ravine to the rear of the Mexican fortifications.

Shields, the senior officer present, learning that Smith had arranged with Cadwalader and Riley the plan of attack for the morning, magnanimously waived interference and reserved the task of holding the village with his brigade against Mexicans on the side of the city, and in case the camp in his rear should be carried, to face about and cut off the enemy. At 3 a. m. Riley moved on the enemy's rear, followed successively by Cadwalader and Smith's brigade (under Justin Dimick.) Colonel Rauson, with the 9th infantry, and parts of the 3d, 12th, and the rifles, was on the ground opposite the enemy's centre. About sunrise the assault was made on the Mexican's rear and both flanks by Riley's, Cadwalader's and Dimick's brigades, the whole commanded by General Smith, the entrenchments stormed, and the works carried—all in seventeen minutes!

In the whole war no more brilliant or decisive victory is to be found on record. One of the pleasing incidents of this battle was the recapture, by the 4th artillery, of two of its guns which had been lost (with honor) in the field of Buena Vista.

#### CHURUBUSCO

lies about four miles east of Contreras, but is six miles distant by the road. Contreras being won, General Worth's division was ordered to attack San Antonia, (to open a shorter and better road to the capital for our siege and other trains) and, after carrying that, to move on and join the other divisions in attacking Churubusco. Accordingly, Clarke's brigade turned the enemy's right by a sweep to the left, and came out on the high road to Mexico. The garrison at San Antonia retreated and was cut in two by Clarke's column. Garland's brigade advancing in front captured the hamlet and the artillery in battery. Both brigades united and rushed on in hot pursuit. The grand movement of the day was then made in two columns; Worth's division from San Antonia in front, and Twiggs' and Pillow's divisions together with Shields' brigade from Coyhoacan. This naturally resolved the battle into two distinct actions on the same field and so closely connected as to be within half cannon shot at the centres of contest. These were, respectively, the *tete du pont*, attacked by the column under Worth, and the fortified convent and hacienda by the columns of Twiggs and Pillow. The Mexican army under Santa Anna were concentrated in and around Churubusco. Twiggs' division had commenced the attack on the field work around the church about an hour, amidst an incessant roll of fire, when Worth, with his division and Cadwalader's brigade, commenced manoeuvring against the *tete du pont*. The other fortifications attacked by Twiggs was half gunshot to the left, and, but for the attack on it, would have poured a destructive fire on Worth's command. Both were attacked, and the fire of San Pablo was in a measure diverted. Garland's brigade moved along to the right of the road directly up to the *tete du pont*. They advanced under fire of a long line of infantry. Clarke's brigade marched at the same time directly on the road, and was supported by Cadwalader's brigade. The whole moved up steadily under a tremendous fire, suffering heavily. At length the line in front of Garland gave way. The *tete du pont* was reached by Clarke and Cadwalader, its deep ditch crossed, its parapets stormed, and the third action on that great day was gained. In the mean time Twiggs' division had gallantly attacked the fortified convent of Churubusco in front, and this terrible battle had continued without cessation for two hours and a half before

the *tete du pont* was captured. Then for another half hour the conflict deepened, the assaults were more furious, and the citadel was entered sword in hand. This was the fourth victory of the day. Still far to the left the roar of battle continued. Shields' and Pierce's brigades, with the rifles, had moved to the rear of Churubusco and there encountered 4,000 Mexican infantry supported by 3,000 of their cavalry. Hotly and furiously the battle raged in this quarter, charge followed charge, volunteers and regulars strove in deeds of valor and firmness to outdo each other, and victory again, and for the fifth time, rewarded their efforts. Then over the dead and wounded, over the long causeway, the daring dragoons of Phil Kearny, Duperin, and McReynolds drove the fugitive enemy, with the sword at their loins, into the very gates of the city of Mexico.

In the series of battles fought this day, of the 9,000 Americans engaged, more than 1,000 were killed and wounded, while the loss of the Mexicans, including prisoners, exceeded 7,000 out of 32,000.

Thus, on the glorious 20th of August, we fought and won five distinct and separate battles: Contreras, San Antonio, the *tete du pont*, the Convent of Churubusco, and the action with the right wing of Santa Anna's army.

One incident related by Ripley illustrates the fearlessness of our troops. He says in his account of the battle of Churubusco: "The road from the village of Churubusco to the captured work (*tete du pont*) was much obstructed by the killed and wounded, and the Mexican ammunition train. The huge wagons of which it was composed took up much space, and in addition, every draught animal attached to them had been killed by the Mexican fire from the *tete du pont* and convent. The confusion caused by the mass of dead men and animals, wagons and material thrown together upon the road, was increased by the taking fire of one of the ammunition wagons, threatening instant and destructive explosion. In consequence, some delay arose in bringing the dragoons forward past the obstacles to the captured work. Some of the soldiers of the 3d dragoons attached to Worth's escort, however, with most reckless daring, mounted the wagons and *actually threw the burning ammunition chests into the ditch*."

Before our army, flushed with victory and impatience for the assault, rose the domes and spires of the capital of Mexico. But, it was not yet to fall. The armistice was signed, negotiations for peace were begun, and our army was halted two miles and a half from the city to await the result.

On the 6th of September these negotiations ended fruitlessly.

General Scott's headquarters were at Tacubaya, about 1,200 yards south of the hill of Chapultepec. At the foot of this hill slope to the west is

#### MOLINO DEL REY,

a stone building of thick and high walls, with towers at the end. 400 yards west of Molino del Rey lies the Casa de Mata, another thick and massive stone building. The Mexicans facing south, had their right at the Casa de Mata, their left in Molino del Rey, and their centre formed a re-entering angle between the two wings. Santa Anna's forces to the number of 14,000, were in line of battle to defend these points. At daylight of the 8th of September, General Worth, with his division Cadwalader's brigade, three squadrons of dragoons, a company of rifles, Drew's battery (3 field pieces), and Huger's battery (2 24-pounders), and Duncan's battery, numbering altogether 3,151 men, made the attack in three columns. After a short but effective cannonade upon Molino del Rey, our centre column of 500 men, under Major Wright, rushed forward upon the centre and were met by a tremendous fire of artillery, but, in spite of it, they drove the artillery men from their guns, and had actually taken the battery when the enemy, seeing the small number of the assailants, rallied, poured in a destructive fire and drove back our column. The light battalion left to cover Huger's battery and the right wing of Cadwalader's brigade then gallantly came into action. The centre was pierced and the two wings of the enemy were isolated. On our right the battle raged with equal fury. (Garland's brigade, assisted by the fire of Drum's battery, assaulted the enemy's left, (Molino del Rey,) and, after an obstinate and severe contest, drove him from his apparently impregnable position, and the captured guns of the enemy were then fired upon his retreating forces.

While this work was progressing on our right and centre, the 2d brigade under Colonel McIntosh, moved on to the assault of Casa Mata, which, instead of an ordinary field work, as was supposed, proved to be a strong stone citadel with bastioned entrenchments and ditches. In easy musket range the enemy opened a deadly fire; our men were thrown into temporary disorder but continued the attack. While this attack was being made, a heavy column of Mexican infantry and cavalry were defiling around Casa Mata, upon our extreme left. Then Duncan's battery and the voltigeurs opened a fire which soon broke this column, while our dragoons charged and completed their rout. Casa Mata was abandoned. Of the enemy 2,200 were killed and wounded and 800 captured; but, alas! of our small but noble force 787 were killed and wounded, of whom 58 were officers. This was on our side by far the bloodiest battle of the whole war.

On the morning of the 12th of September our batteries opened fire upon

#### CHAPULTEPEC

and continued it with marked effect until night. The hill of Chapultepec is a steep, bluff rocky height rising 150 feet above the surrounding grounds, and defended by a strong castle of thick stone walls. The fortress is about 90 feet long. The base of the hill was defended by a thick and high stone wall, and inside of it lay a considerable body of troops. The lower slope of the hill was mined. Beyond the mines and about midway of the ascent was a strong redoubt clasping the entire front. This was also filled with troops. Above this redoubt was an inner wall enclosing the crest of the hill with a wide and deep ditch. Inside of this wall was the main fortress or citadel filled with troops under General Bravo, and defended by 11 pieces of artillery. At 8 a. m. on the 13th, the cessation of fire of our heavy batteries gave the signal for assault. On the west, Pillow with his division and a storming party of 250 men from Worth's division moved to the attack--Worth's division being in reserve at Molino del Rey.

The enemy being driven from the wall at the base of the hill, the storming party advanced, preceded and followed by the voltigeurs. The enemy fell back slowly. Here Pillow being wounded the command of the column devolved upon General Cadwalader. The intrepid skirmishers pressed forward followed by the storming party with scaling ladders, the remainder of the assaulting column and by Clarke's brigade of Worth's division. The broken acclivity was ascended and the redoubt half-way up was carried. Slowly they advanced under a terrible shower of balls. They reach the ditch, bridge it with fascines, the scaling ladders are placed against the massive wall, they mount and rush into the citadel. General Quitman, with Shields' and Smith's brigades, simultaneously with the movement upon the west, approached the southeast of the same works. Smith's brigade was thrown out to make a sweep to the right, in order to present a front against the enemy's line (outside) and to turn two batteries near the foot of Chapultepec. The storming party, aided by other parts of this force, carried the two batteries in the road, took some guns, with many prisoners. The South Carolina and New York volunteers, (Shields' brigade,) and the 2d Pennsylvania, all on the left of Quitman's line, together with portions of the storming parties, crossed the meadows in front under a heavy fire and entered the outer enclosure of Chapultepec just in time to join in the final assault from the west.

A brief but fierce struggle occurred, the fortress was carried, its artillery was captured, and a large number of prisoners were taken.

#### THE CITY OF MEXICO

at length, lay open to attack. The garitas and works protecting the causeways were the only remaining obstacles.

To the north and at the base of the mound, inaccessible on that side, Colonel Trousdale, with the 11th and 14th infantry and Magruder's battery had, at the same time, some spirited affairs against superior numbers, driving the enemy from a battery in the road and capturing a gun.

General Worth then advanced with Garland's brigade, the light battalion and Duncan's battery, turned the forest on the west and arrived opposite the north centre of Chapultepec and came up with Trousdale's brigade. Continuing to advance, this division passed Chapultepec and attacked the right of the enemy's line on the road, about the time of the general retreat consequent upon the capture of the citadel and its outworks. Being reinforced by Clarke's and Cadwalader's brigades, Worth pursued and forced the enemy along the San Cosmo causeway to the suburb of the city in front of the gate. There they referred themselves behind ditches and on the flat roofs of houses, making the village a fortification. Our pioneers with picks and crowbars soon dug through the houses, and, by 8 o'clock p.m., these positions were carried and Worth quietly rested within the city.

General Quitman at the same time strengthened by Smith's and Pierce's brigades, pressed forward in the Chapultepec causeway towards the Belen gate, fighting all the way and under a tremendous fire of artillery. Our loss here was very heavy. Slowly creeping from arch to arch with a severe fire from batteries in front and from batteries in flank, our forces neared the Belen gate and gallantly charged through it into the city. But their work was not yet ended. In our front another battery kept up a fierce fire and the Mexicans charged repeatedly and vigorously, but were resolutely repulsed. During this fight our men constructed earthworks for infantry and two batteries at the gate and kept up a sharp fire along our front. That night, sheltered by these works, our forces slept upon their arms.

When the morning of the 14th dawned, both columns marched into the city without resistance, and this wondrous battle-march from Vera Cruz to the city of Mexico was history!

#### NATIONAL BRIDGE, HUAMANTLA, SIEGE OF PUEBLA, ETC.

Early in August, 1847, the guerrilla troops were very active in their operations upon our line between Vera Cruz and the city of Mexico.

A train escorted by Maj. Lally's force of 1,000 men were repeatedly attacked by the Mexicans at and near the National Bridge, but the enemy were handsomely repulsed and the train saved. On the 8th of October, General Joseph Lane, with a force of Indiana, Ohio and Pennsylvania troops, four mounted companies under Captain Walker of the rifles and Heinzelman's battalion attacked and routed the Mexicans under Santa Anna at Huamantla with great loss. The victory was saddened by the fall of Walker at the moment of success. On the 18th Lane pushed on to Atlixco and defeated the guerrilla forces. They then made Matamoros their headquarters, from which Lane drove them in November. The siege of Puebla, which had been bravely sustained by Colonel Childs, was raised and, except occasional skirmishes, the war was ended.

Mexico having no fleets, its slight commerce was swept from the seas at the beginning of the war yet

#### OUR NAVAL FORCES

Were actively engaged along the shores of the Gulf and the Pacific. Their prompt and energetic action in the California as well as their participation in the bombardment of Vera Cruz has already been mentioned. In the Gulf our squadron, first under Commodore Donner and afterwards under Commodore Perry, captured Alvarado, Tampico, Tuxpan and other ports while on the Pacific, Commodore Brulé captured Mazatlan and other places garrisoned and held them to the close of the war, thus emulating that energy, discipline and gallantry for which our navy has been so long and justly celebrated.

Thus has been told the plain unvarnished story of the battles of the war. Many histories of it have been written and many of its heroic deeds related; but we who have been soldiers well know that history is silent about the many acts of heroism our comrades have done, and the deeds themselves are their only rewards.

What are the fruits of the Mexican war?

#### THE TREATY OF GAUDALUPE HIDALGO

Ceded to the United States a territory extending from the eastern base of the Rocky mountains to the shores of the Pacific, including New Mexico, Arizona, California, Nevada, Colorado and

Utah, containing an area of about 700,000 square miles. It quieted our title between the Nueces and Rio Grande on the south, and between Texas and New Mexico on the west. It poured into our lap the gold of California and the silver of Nevada, Utah and Colorado. It gave us a railway from the Atlantic to the Pacific over which the commerce of the farthest East is brought to our doors.

It has given us magnificent ports upon the shores of the Pacific Ocean. There great cities have sprung up which are yet in their youth. Nations have come to us from far distant climes. Asia and Japan have awakened from their death-like sleep of ages and are learning from us the arts of civilization and our land is the great highway for the multitudes of the world. It has given our country a prominent rank among the nations of the earth. It has displayed to the eyes of doubting monarchists the existence of a majestic power and energy, a youthful freshness of spirit combined with manly vigor, which are well calculated to insure peace, by the respect which her ability has inspired and the admiration which is elicited by the heroic conduct of her sons. The United States has not only shown ability for defensive war, but has successfully solved the problem of the capacity of a republic to engage in a foreign war. It has demonstrated that, without the expense of a large standing army it can at any time bring into the field an immense force drawn from the body of the people, able to endure fatigue, surmount obstacles and achieve victories, under circumstances which would have broken the spirits and quelled the courage even of troops incurred to war. And this goodly land won by our arms, is now the abode of peace and is rapidly growing in population, in wealth, in the arts and sciences which tend to material happiness. A free land filled with a free people.

Leaving for a time the grave and important matters, let me sketch a few scenes and persons familiar to us all in Mexico.

We know what chapparel was, but would find it hard to describe. At a distance it looks well enough, the largest tree (mesquit) not exceeding the peach tree in size, yet crooked, ill-shaped and at irregular distances apart. The intervals are filled with undergrowth which meets the branches of the mesquit. Prongs of these bushes, with sharp steel colored thorns shoot from the surface of the ground in all directions. The remainder of the chapparel is composed of weeds thickly interwoven with briars, prickly pear and other varieties of caetns. One must see and feel chapparel to know what it is. I quote a doggerel stanza then current among the boys, tersely descriptive of it and of the curious grasshoppers and frogs which abounded on the Rio Grande,

"All bushes have thorns,  
All insects have horns."

Now let us visit the market place at Puebla on a Sunday morning. It was held in the principal plaza and had the semblance of a camp of Arabs. Each family, (for the whole family seems to come to market, the donkey, the dog and all,) has a little tent formed of the petate (mats) of the country, thrown over a ridge pole sustained by upright sticks, and hanging like curtains down either side. Beneath this they and their effects are sheltered from sun and rain. The gaily dressed and picturesque multitude, among whom trip the tidy looking housemaid and the spruce mozo of the city, with their little baskets of palm leaf, are moving about and threading their way among those rude awnings, while at their feet lie piles upon piles of the richest and most luscious fruits and vegetables.

Within his view the spectator can see the arbo, pear, peach, plum and cherry of the Terras, Templidas mingled in rich profusion with the pineapple, banana, chirimoya and orange of the Tierra's valientes, all brought together from short distances. Where nature has been so beautif'ul, what of the people who inhabit it. Among the better classes it is common to see a young gentleman dressed in a close fitting blue cloth jacket, sky-blue velvet trowsers open to the thigh down, ornamented with small silver bell buttons; now white drawers showing at the sides and his feet shod with stamped and embroidered botas. Around his waist a heavy crimson silk sash, a gay wooden scrape hung gracefully over his shoulders and on his head a sugar-loaf glazed sombrero bound round with thick silver cords and pendant tasse's. On his feet spurs of enormous size, each spike of the rowels two inches long, with small pieces of metal hanging to them loosely and jingling at every step; all these bright colors set off by dark brilliant eyes and jet black hair. Mouchlim on a spirited horse trained to gallop all day under the shadow of a single tree, equip it by a heavy bit, silver spangled bridle and an immense saddle plated with silver on every available spot, and the Mexican can become the Mexican cavalier.

There is another and a numerous class of Mexicans, widely differing in appearance, who could any pleasant day be seen in the streets standing idly sideways, leaning against the walls of the houses, or sitting around a dingy square spread upon the ground and playing monte with a greasy pack of cards, presiding over a general appearance of dirty laziness. How and on what they lived was a profound mystery which our dull saxon brain could never comprehend.

Let us seek a more congenial theme. Though not so young nor gallant as once we were, let us not forget Mexico's dark eyed señoritas and señoritas. Bless their sweet forgiving souls, how often in the afternoons they sought the plazas, arrayed in full flowing skirts, with no awkward staves to cramp the grace of motion, their coquettish rebosos never for an instant quiet, but changing its folds and half revealing rounded neck and arm. Their hair too, such hair—no doubts born to conceal nature's fair handiwork; and as the music of our bands filled the air their little feet beat time to its rhythm. At their hands no more stylish bayles, or dances as we were, as if the blue coats were favorite partners in the dance or waltz. Amiable in disposition, no one in manner, their hue more seemed tempered by the softness of their eyes and their complex on often yellow or dark, is no more than

"The embowering of the fruit that tells  
How rich within the soul of sweetness dwelle."

Comrades, more than thirty years have passed away since the tidings flushed over the land that General Arista had crossed the Rio Grande and with largely superior forces had surrounded General Taylor's army.

Quickly on its heels followed the news of the glorious victories of Palo Alto and Resaca de

la Palma. We can never forget the throb of patriotic devotion that thrilled our hearts. Mexico and the United States had appealed to the sword. At this supreme moment our people rose as one man. Volunteers were so numerous that all could not be received. There was manly joy among the accepted, and manly regret among the rejected. Congress, keeping step with the people, freely voted money, supplies and full power to the Executive. A generation of the world has since passed away, and we, then glowing with youth and health, now blossoming for the grave, meet here as the representatives of the survivors of the 80,000 gallant men, who under the stars and stripes, marched to the conquest of Mexico.

It is said that but 15,000 of us still live and that 65,000 have already "trod the road to dusky death." Our own broken forms admonish us that it cannot be long before we too must tread the same path, humbly trusting in Him who holds the nations in the hollow of His hands. Yet we have the proud reflection that we have greatly extended the limits of our country's territory; we have made "American citizens" a title of honor; that we have full high advanced the flag handed down to us by our Revolutionary sires, and that in our hands it has never been tainted with dishonor or lowered in esteem. Our fathers bequeathed to us a charter of political rights, a government based upon the will of the people, and a land of civil and religious liberty. All these we have kept in their essence and spirit, and, with God's help, will transmit them unimpaired to our children. Our fathers left us a country young and feeble among the nations of the world. Terribly shaken by war abroad and war at home it has successfully passed through all the trials and vicissitudes to which a government can possibly be subjected, and to-day it stands confessedly the greatest of the earth, the exemplar of nations and the polar star to which all peoples look for political guidance and direction. May our beloved country ever be in the future as in the past, the home and hope of the oppressed of the earth. Our last and most earnest prayer is that the institutions watered by our own and the more precious blood of our forefathers may bloom and flourish in eternal youth and strength.

At the conclusion of General Crittenden's oration, which was listened to with profound interest and attention, the speaker was greeted with a round of applause and hearty congratulations.

General GEORGE W. McCook, of Ohio, moved an expression of thanks to the orator for his able and comprehensive narrative of thrilling events in the Mexican war, which had awokened in the minds of those present such pleasurable recollections of friendships formed many years ago under circumstances requiring men to stand shoulder to shoulder, not for their personal safety alone, but for the honor of the glorious flag under which they were mutually engaged in the service of their country. Friendships thus formed, said the speaker, should never be severed by trivial causes; the process of time should serve to cement their attachments for one another; and he could not conceive that anything other than the kindest sentiments should ever grow out of this organization of the remaining participants in those stirring scenes. He rejoiced to witness the spirit of patriotism which brought together from all sections of the Union men who desired to make this centennial year memorable, in their declining days, by renewing their old ties of fraternal regard and esteem, which he devoutly hoped were never again to be sundered or disturbed by jarring difference of political opinions. [The Secretary regrets that owing to ill health his meagre notes, taken at the moment, fail to convey the exact text of General McCook's remarks, which worked up the assemblage to a high state of enthusiastic applause at the close of his ringing speech.]

Upon information being sent to the President that Gen. CLAUDIUS BUSTER, one of the veterans of the Texas Revolution, who "drew a black bean" at Mier, was present in the hall, that gentleman was cordially invited to a seat on the platform, and warmly greeted as he passed up the aisle.

A letter was read from Major W. B. WILSON, tendering fifty tickets of invitation to the tenth reunion of the "Army of the Tennessee" on the 6th and 7th of July, which were accepted and a vote of thanks tendered.

Secretary KENADAY read the following resolutions in recognition of the

COURTESY OF RAILROAD COMPANIES TO MEXICAN VETERANS.

*Resolved*, That the sincere thanks of the National Association of Veterans of the Mexican War are eminently due and are hereby respectfully tendered to those distinguished citizens of our great and growing country, Thomas A. Scott, Esq., president of the Texas and Pacific Railroad Company, Leland Stanford, Esq., President of the Central Pacific Railroad Company, and Sydney Dillon, Esq., president of the Union Pacific Railroad Company, representing the stockholders of said companies, for their generous recognition of the public services of the veterans of the Mexican War, as displayed by the above-named gentlemen, tendering to our comrades residing in the most remote sections of the country a free passage over their lines of road, in order to enable them to participate in the re-union of the survivors at the Centennial anniversary of the National Independence.

*Resolved*, That the secretary be directed to convey to those gentlemen the above resolutions, by letter or otherwise, and to give them assurance of our highest respect for

their gigantic efforts to develop the resources of our beloved country, giving employment to vast numbers of our fellow-men, and spreading the blessings of civilization over the immense area of territory in our Western possessions.

[The resolutions were a few days subsequently handsomely engrossed and transmitted to the distinguished gentlemen named, as directed.]

The President here called on the Secretary to read his annual report of the transactions of the Association, which was delivered as follows :

ANNUAL REPORT OF A. M. KENADAY,

*Secretary of the National Association, Veterans of the Mexican War.*

Gen. J. W. DENVER, President, &c.

**GENERAL:** In reporting the transactions of my office in the National Association, I beg leave to state in the outset that no specific duties were laid down for my observance by the convention which organized the association, the members of which by a most flattering vote insisted upon my filling the office of first secretary. In accepting the position I promised to devote whatever degree of ability I possessed in the discharge of the labors attached. I have endeavored to keep level with the duties properly pertaining to that office, and have not in any instance knowingly transcended the proper limits without consulting my superior officer, the president of the Association, keeping steadily in view the main objects expressed in the constitution, to wit :

OBJECTS OF THE ASSOCIATION—WHO ENTITLED TO MEMBERSHIP.

Article III. The objects of the Association shall be to organize the scattered veterans of the Mexican war into one body, upon the broad principles of equality, fraternity, and charity, for the promotion of social intercourse, good fellowship, and all proper assistance.

Article VI. All members in good standing in State and other local organizations shall be entitled to membership in this Association, and shall become members, upon written application, by a vote of a majority of the members present at any regular meeting of the Association.

\* \* \* \* \*

In regard to the first of these mandates, my efforts "to organize the scattered veterans of the Mexican war into one body" for the laudable purposes above indicated, have been unceasing and untiring ever since the movement began at Washington city in February, 1873. I have earnestly endeavored to make up by zeal and energy in the right direction for what was lacking in the matter of special knowledge at the start. The result of these efforts is briefly stated as follows: The collection of the names of about 5,500 survivors, with their post-office addresses, situated in every State and Territory of the Union.

Of this number 2,400 have thus far made written application for the medal badge adopted by the last National Convention as the insignia of membership in the association, and much the greater portion of the remaining veterans referred to have forwarded written requests in the prescribed form to be enrolled in the register, accompanied by a statement of their services. They have fulfilled the requirements of Article 6, which entitle them to membership, and I respectfully recommend that all such applicants be formally admitted by vote as members of the National Association.

Most of the members present are supposed to be familiar with the means used by the secretary to compass the result above stated, which, as shown by the third article of the Constitution, was evidently expected to be performed by the officers of the Association; but I beg leave to reiterate the fact referred to in my last annual report, that the thousands of circulars scattered all over the country during the first year of the association were rendered absolutely necessary to sustain and authenticate the petition submitted to Congress by the convention assuming to represent the survivors, as well as to controvert the extravagant estimate of the then Commissioner of Pensions in regard to the number of veterans who would be entitled to pension under the proposed bill. To carry out this work, in which our comrades were all interested, I was compelled to solicit small donations—a line of business to which I had never been accustomed, and which was decidedly repulsive to my tastes and inclinations. The amount collected in this way is a matter of record; and while I reported that the sum thus raised sufficed to cover the absolute outlay for printing the proceedings of the convention, the circulars, &c., and the postage thereon, it never did, nor was it ever expected to, compensate me and my family (by whom I was assisted) for the mental and physical labor expended in the undertaking which the Association had called, but had provided no means of paying for, and the failure of which would have abruptly terminated the movement.

At the close of the second convention the Secretary was again left without a dollar being provided to publish the proceedings or execute its wishes. A committee on Finance was appointed, who authorized the Secretary to promulgate a circular, over their signatures, assessing the several States in amounts ranging from \$25 to \$100 each.

The plan, however, was not popular, although within two months after the adjournment two whole-souled gentlemen—General John Love, of Indiana, and Colonel W. B. Stanley, of South Carolina—responded with the amounts charged to their respective States. Their generous action determined the Secretary to publish the proceedings and continue in the performance of his duties, even if other States should fail to respond to their assessments.

## RETURNS OF MONEY IN RESPONSE TO CIRCULAR OF FINANCE COMMITTEE.

Arkansas—May 12, 1876.....	\$13 00	Rhode Island—May 7, 1872, (full assessment).....	\$25 00
Illinois—June 28, 1875.....	10 00	South Carolina—April 25, 1875, (full assessment).....	50 00
Indiana—April 21, 1875, (full assessment).....	100 00	Iowa—Aug. 4, 1875, (full assessment).....	7 25
Maryland—Feb. 22, 1876, (full assessment).....	25 00	Minnesota—March 1, 1876.....	18 40
New York—May 15, 1875.....	25 00	Nevada—May 27, 1875.....	50 00
Oregon—June 22, 1875.....	18 10	Pensylvania—June 16, 1875,.....	30 00
			Total from fourteen States.....
			\$196 75

This amount was promptly turned over to the treasurer of the finance committee, and his receipt returned to the parties sending in the order of reception.

## THE MEDAL BADGE.

In regard to the medal badge, it is proper to state this undertaking is the outgrowth of a resolution adopted by the first convention directing a committee, consisting of Major A. J. Dallas, U. S. A., General P. O. Hebert, General James Tilton and Judge H. R. Crosby, to select an appropriate design for a Badge and Seal. Major Dallas reported at the next convention the design, which was adopted without opposition, I had it engraved on wood for publication with the proceedings, and sent the same to all known veterans. The president and secretary had been appointed by the association a committee to ascertain the cost and have the work executed.

Prompt and energetic action was necessary in order to afford members an opportunity to prove their identity and to enable them to obtain any advantages that their connection with the National Association would afford them in attending the proposed reunion at Philadelphia on the occasion of the Centennial Fourth of July, which had been a declared object from the beginning of the movement. It was confidently anticipated that all the railroad corporations would carry our comrades over their lines free, if our members possessed an authentic token to distinguish them from mere pretenders, who would be likely to attempt, imposition on the railroad companies as well as upon the members.

Congress, through the objection of a single member, had failed to donate the cannon asked for by the committee at the close of the last session, and the association had no pecuniary means whatever to carry out this purpose. The committee, therefore had no recourse but to lay the facts before the President of the United States, and solicit a donation of cannon by the Executive branch of the Government to aid them in the undertaking, which was favorably responded to. The result of the committee's efforts are pretty well known to most of the members; and their action in the premises was fully endorsed by the meeting of officers representing the States called to meet at Washington on the 22d of February last, and has elicited the kindest appreciation from many of those who received the badges.

Every member of the state and county associations whose name and address was in possession of the secretary, had a circular sent to him, fully explaining the conditions upon which he could obtain the badge and be enrolled in the National Brotherhood, as provided in Article 6 of our constitution.

The labor attending this duty, by order of the president of the association, devolved on the secretary, who devoted himself exclusively to the incidental business connected with the distribution of the badges—abandoning a remunerative employment for the purpose and employing all the necessary assistance from his own resources.

The amount of labor, expense, anxiety and petty annoyances attending the performance of this duty was not anticipated at the beginning. If the day of obtaining the medals from the mint; the impatience of many applicants at not promptly receiving answers, the accidental losses by mail (which were made good by the secretary,) and the mistakes incidental to rushing the work, could have been foreseen, the badges would probably not have been issued, for no money'd consideration, at my down-hill time of life, would induce me, in view of past experience, to undertake such an enterprise under similar unfavorable circumstances. But I not only received a cheering note from comrades who had perhaps experienced the vicissitudes of a "forlorn hope" on other fields of action, but probably have broken down before this meeting. But happily all difficulties that are worth mentioning have thus far been surmounted. A register of the survivors, alphabetically arranged, by states and by regiments, &c., has grown out of this, which will prove an interesting and useful publication when finished.

In performing this work alone over 6,000 letters and postal cards were received and answered, an average of about 33 letters a day since January; 15,000 circulars have been distributed; 4,000,000 copies of printed papers containing matters of interest to comrades, 2,400 medals, about 5,000 postal cards and a vast amount of written correspondence on various subjects. The postage on this matter formed a very considerable item of expense. In addition to this, since my last annual report, had to prepare and distribute 5,000 copies of pamphlet proceedings of the national convention. They were sent gratuitously to all known survivors, but the voluntary contributions of members and the balances of assessments since received nearly cover the cash outlay.

Much of the correspondence with railroad companies, &c., in regard to transportation has been published in various forms and sent to members for their information. It is not deemed necessary to repeat it in this report. But the following copy of a letter submitted by you in connection with your remarks before the sub-Committee of Invalid Pensions properly pertains to my annual report. It is a gratifying fact that the Invalid Pension Committee found the suggestions worthy of adoption in the report to the House of Representatives:

## COPY OF LETTER SUBMITTED TO PENSION COMMITTEE.

WASHINGTON, D. C., January 24, 1876.

*Gen. J. W. Devver, President N. A. V. M. W.:*

GENERAL: In reply to your verbal request for information, to be presented to the honorable Committee of Pensions in relation to our bill before Congress, I beg leave to submit my report of January 9, 1875, (copy inclosed in published proceedings of last convention,) showing the total of survivors then reported through State and county organizations, &c., to be 4,061. During the past year, through the zeal and energy of the officers of the association throughout the several States and Territories, who have not abated their enthusiasm in the work of enrollment, perhaps 1,000 more names have been forwarded to my office. But in making up the list of survivors by States—a work in which I am now engaged—I find many names duplicated which, when thrown out, will reduce the number to about 4,500.

In view of the wise publicity the movement has attained, through the generosity of the public press, during the past three years of agitation and the desire of all survivors of the war to know something of our efforts here in their behalf, which information has been obtainable gratuitously by simply sending names and address to the secretary, I think I will not be accused of gross exaggeration in saying that my list covers fully one-half the survivors who would be eligible to a pension. And this estimate falls below the calculations of the honorable members of the House who signed the minority report of the Pension Committee of the Forty-third Congress, who expressed the opinion that ten per centum of the whole number of officers, soldiers, sailors and marines engaged in the war, from beginning to end, (about ten thousand in round numbers,) would, at that time, cover all the survivors. A year has elapsed since that report was made, and death in the meantime has not been idle in our ranks.

I respectfully suggest, Mr. President, that you invite the attention of the present committee to the views of the Hons. T. T. Crittenden, J. D. Young, W. J. O'Brien, J. M. Rusk and James S. Martin, members of the Invalid Pension Committee of the Forty-third Congress, (published in last proceedings of national association.) Their finding was based on estimates submitted for and against the proposed pension by the friends of the petitioners in private life as well as the jealous guardians of the public purse in the Executive Departments of the Government, who are, as a rule, influenced more by the stern dictates of law than by impartial distribution of justice. That report was circulated with our last published proceedings, and everywhere elicited the warmest panegyrics on the character of the distinguished signers by the grateful veterans in whose behalf it was made. It is an argument and a conclusion that carries conviction to every unprejudiced mind of the justice of our humble petition.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. M. KENADAY, Secretary, &c.

## PRESENT CONDITION OF THE PENSION BILL.

On the 22d of June I addressed a letter to the Hon. G. A. Jenkins, of Pennsylvania, chairman of the House Committee on Invalid Pensions, requesting an opinion as to the probability of our bill becoming a law at this session. On the 27th I had the honor to receive the following reply:

UNITED STATES HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES:

Washington, D. C., June 24, 1876.

*A. M. Kenaday, esq.*

Dear Sir: \* \* \* The bill granting pensions to the soldiers of the Mexican war is very near the head of the calendar, and I sincerely hope and expect it will be reached yet. I placed it in charge of Mr. Hewitt, of Alabama, who was one of its most zealous advocates on the committee, and nothing will be left undone to have it considered at an early day. We have every reason to expect it will become a law.

Yours truly,

G. A. JENKES.

Respectfully submitted.

A. M. KENADAY, Secretary.

[NOTE.—It is proper to state in this connection that every effort was made by the officers at headquarters to induce Mr. JENKS to fulfil his promise before the adjournment of Congress, and obtain a vote upon our bill. He declined on account of the absence of Mr. GOLDSMITH W. HEWITT, of Ala., who had charge of the matter. When Mr. HEWITT returned to his seat during the month of August, he was also importuned to call it up, but after consulting with our friends in the House he decided it was for the best interests of all parties concerned that action be postponed until the December session, when he assured us that every effort would be made to carry it through both Houses of Congress.]

The report of the Secretary was accepted and recommendations adopted, and, on motion of Comrade C. B. MAURY, of Pittsburg, the thanks of the Association were voted to Secretary KENADAY.

## REPORT OF THE TREASURER.

Capt. SAMUEL V. NILES, Treasurer and member of Finance Committee, submitted a supplemental report (his annual report having been submitted and ap-

proved at the meeting of officers, February 22, 1876,) covering receipts and disbursements from February 22, 1876, to July 4, 1876, as follows :

1876.	Receipts.	DR.	1876.	Expenditures.	CR.
Feb. 22	To balance on hand,.....	\$99 56	April 18	Paid to A. M. Kenadav, Sec- retary, &c., on ac't of print- ing and other expenses, du- ly approved by Finance Com. on Expenditures....	
Mar. 1	To amount received from Min- nesota Association.....	18 40			
May 6	Ditto from Arkansas Associa'tn	13 00			
	Total receipts.....	130 96			
	Total expenditures.....	100 00			
	Balance on hand, July 4....	\$30 96		Total.....	\$100 00

[NOTE.—The total returns of assessments in response to circulars of Finance Committee are detailed in the order of reception in report of the Secretary, p. 24.]

#### REPORT OF SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON CORRESPONDENCE RELATIVE TO MONUMENTS,

COL. W. L. SCHLEY, on behalf of the committee to whom was referred the correspondence of Dr. A. G. CAROTHERS and the War Department, [printed on pages 29-30, Proceedings of 1875] in which Dr. Carothers suggested the erection of a monument at Monterey, while the War Department, through the late Col. OSCAR A. MACK, U. S. A., expressed the opinion that the memory of those gallant men might be more duly honored and perpetuated by erecting a handsome monument in the City of Washington," &c., &c., reported—

That the subject is one of national character, and that the expense of erecting such monument should be at the cost of the United States Government. That a special committee be appointed to devise a suitable plan and design, which is to be submitted, through the President, to the several State organizations for their approval, and, if such plan is accepted, concerted action be taken to bring the matter to the attention of Congress.

#### DOMICIL AT THE SOLDIERS' HOME FOR AGED VETERANS.

The Secretary reported in regard to the resolution of the last annual Convention directing the officers of the Association to take proper action for obtaining domicil at the Soldiers' Home for aged and needy veterans of the Mexican War, &c.; that the attention of the Hon. Alpheus S. Williams, M. C., who is a member of the House Committee on Military Affairs, had been invited to the subject, and that he had promised to give it official consideration.

#### AID IN OBTAINING EMPLOYMENT.

Also, with reference to the resolution introduced by Comrade DAWSON, of N. Y., requesting Government officers in the dispensation of official patronage to remember the claims of deserving mechanics and workingmen among the veterans of the Mexican War, the Secretary reported that a number of applications had been made to the President and Secretary for endorsement under the resolution, which were always cheerfully complied with, and he was gratified to report that in some cases the applicants were successful in obtaining employment.

#### REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON SELECTION OF CANDIDATES FOR OFFICE.

The committee elected by the members present from the several States to select candidates for the various offices, to be voted for by the Association, now made their appearance and announced the result of their deliberations through the clerk of the committee, Major A. J. Dallas, U. S. A., who mounted the platform and read the minutes of their proceedings. He was accompanied by Gen. Love, the chairman of the committee.

When the State of Maryland was reached in the call it was announced that the present officers from that State were withdrawn and no others would be named. Colonel Wm. L. Schley, secretary of the Baltimore Association, demanded to know by what authority this had been done? He denied that the committeeman from the Maryland association, or even the whole committee, had any such authority. The committee was appointed for no such purpose, and he denied the right of any of its members to withdraw the veterans of the Maryland association from the National Association. If any one wished to do so, he could, of course, withdraw himself; but he denied his right or authority to speak for anybody else in that respect. Old Maryland had always proved true to the Union—had always upheld the honor of the nation. She was proud of the part her sons had taken in the war with Mexico, and the survivors of them would never consent to be thus withdrawn from their comrades who had helped them make

the history of that war so glorious to our whole country. As Maryland had been true to the Union heretofore, so would her surviving veterans be true to the National Association now.

Col. Schley's remarks were received with frequent bursts of applause.

A motion was made that the old officers from Maryland be re-elected. Carried by acclamation.

When New Jersey was reached a similar scene transpired. The committeeman from that State also proposed to withdraw, but he was checked by Col. J. E. Nuttman and Charles Bowers, Esq. They were sustained by the Association and the old officers from New Jersey retained.

When New York was reached the like action of the committeeman from that State was announced, and several of those present from that State seemed to sustain him. The discussion that followed took a wide range and became quite animated and heated. Secretary Kenaday seemed to be the chief object of attack on the part of the New York members. He defended himself by saying that the Association at New York had not complied with the requirements of the Constitution and the resolutions of the first convention in transmitting a list of their members—[a voice, "No, and we never will 't"—and properly that society as a body was not entitled to a voice in the National Association.

President Denver here interrupted the Secretary and addressed the Association at considerable length:

He expressed great regret that any cause of disturbance should have found its way into the councils of the Association, or that any comrade should allow any but the most kindly feelings to enter his bosom towards his fellows. He deplored the attacks made on the Secretary as unjust and ungenerous. Every one who knew anything about it knew that we owe more to the zeal and energy of Secretary Kenaday for our organization than to any one else. That he has rendered great and valuable services, no one will dispute, and that he has never received any compensation from the Association is equally well known. He thought, too, it came with an ill grace from gentlemen who had never complied with the rules and regulations of the National Association, to come here to disturb the harmony of those who had complied with them in every particular. As to the matter of procuring the badge—all that was reported to the Association on the 22d of February last by the committee having it in charge, and the Association fully approved of their action and ordered the distribution of the badges. The manner of distribution was then seized on by these discontented spirits to get up fresh discontent, and as their demands could not be complied with by the Secretary, they reused the badge authorized by the National Association, but got up a counterfeit copy of it. To his mind the spirit thus manifested was all wrong. If we cannot meet together in harmony let us disband. The Secretary has discharged his duties honestly, faithfully and zealously. Every act of his has, from the beginning, been closely scrutinized, and out of every investigation he has come with the hearty approval and commendation of the examining committees.

It has been asserted that the Secretary contemplates taking advantage of the knowledge obtained through his position to establish a pension claim agency. If he does propose any such thing, is that any just cause of complaint to any one? So far from any one finding fault with him on that account, I think he ought to receive all possible encouragement from members of the Association; for in that way they may accord to him so slight remuneration for services he has so long rendered w/out compensation. Besides he has as good a right to engage in that business as any body else if he chooses. As for myself I do not propose to engage in it. But no doubt others will, and Secretaries or members of local associations may have a better opportunity of getting such cases than the Secretary of the National Association, because they are nearer to the applicants. I know Secretary Kenaday did not enter upon this work with this object in view, for the business grew out of his labors, and absolutely had no foundation when he commenced. Besides his services will be of very great advantage to members in proving up their identity, in learning the whereabouts of comrades. But whether Secretary Kenaday chooses to become a claim agent or not, I can certify that he has been faithful in the position assigned to him by his comrades, who refused to accept his declination. He has his likes and dislikes, as all positive men have; but the Association as a body have been fortunate in obtaining the services of so efficient and zealous an agent in his responsible position. He has had to struggle in the discharge of his duty against all sorts of disadvantages and has been subjected to petty bickering and fault finding from this same source of discontent ever since the movement began in the early part of 1873. I know of what I speak. He should be judged by his works. I have watched his conduct with a critical eye but with no ungenerous feeling. He deserves credit for his efforts to sustain the movement. He has collected materials, in a crude state, from all parts of the country that will be of interest to all of us, and he is arranging them intelligently for the permanent records of the Association.

The question on the adoption of the report of the Committee was adopted unanimously. [The names of the officers elected will be found on page 3.]

#### PROPOSED VISIT TO THE OLD BATTLE FIELDS IN MEXICO.

Colonel Robert Klotz of Pennsylvania, moved that when the Association adjourn it be to meet in Washington City on the 22d of February next. He

took occasion to say that about that time a number of members of the Scott Legion of Philadelphia propose to visit the battle fields along the route from Vera Cruz to the City of Mexico. It will be a pleasure excursion, and will occupy six or eight weeks the round trip. The party will go by rail to New Orleans, thence by steamer to Vera Cruz; and it is estimated that \$500 will cover the expense of the trip. [All comrades desiring to join the party the Secretary has been requested to state, are invited to communicate with Colonel Robert Klotz, Mauch Chunk, Pennsylvania, or Captain C. F. Sargent, at Scott Legion Headquarters, corner Fourth street and Fairmount Avenue, Philadelphia.]

The meeting then adjourned to the 22d of February, 1877, at Washington, D. C., when it is expected a large attendance of members will be present from all parts of the country, to congratulate one another on our anticipated success in Congress, and also witness the inaugural ceremonies of the newly-elected President of the United States, on the 4th of March.

#### SUPPLEMENTAL REPORT.

It is proper to state that so much of the foregoing narrative as relates to the reading of the report of the committee on selection of officers, was prepared by President Denver himself, at the request of Secretary Kenaday, who takes this occasion to say, that he regrets any circumstance in the past which could possibly be construed as giving offence to the members of the New York City Association. The Secretary yet stands ready, however, to serve any and every veteran of the Mexican war, who honestly desires the success of the Association, with whatever ability he (the Secretary) possesses, and at the sacrifice of any personal labor or expense. This declaration is in strict accordance with his ideas of duty to his old comrades. But his private judgment and opinions, not being derived from any man or body of men, are independent matters under his individual control, and he can well afford (with the grace of God) to drop from his list of "friends" any person who dislikes this trait in his character.

Those who are not on the rolls of the National Association, not having been in communication with the Secretary, may have possibly been misled by one or two individuals who are ambitious to fill his place and reap the prospective advantages of his labors. By arraying themselves in opposition to the Association simply because the Secretary has announced a willingness to attend to a class of business open to public competition, surely does not seem a good way to promote the objects of the Association. It is of little consequence to the membership at large whether their secretary obtains the means of sustaining the work expected of him in the manner proposed, or by "peddling peanuts," so long as he renders useful and acceptable service as a consideration for the money voluntarily given. But the small number of discontented individuals who attended the Philadelphia meeting and assumed to take New York out of the National body, are perhaps not aware that there are 167 names of veterans residing in that State, on our rolls, outside of their membership; a much greater number than they ever claimed to have in their club. Out of the limited number of survivors of the two gallant New York regiments of volunteers in the Mexican war, 63 of Col. Stevenson's regiment, and 39 of Col. Burnett's regiment, have already procured the badge of the National Association by direct application to the Secretary, and are enrolled as members thereof: besides 19 survivors of the 10th United States Infantry, (which was mostly raised in that State,) and others residing therein connected with the various corps, regular and volunteer, during the Mexican war. Many of these never heard of the local society in New York city, and as evidence that the seceders do not carry everybody with them, attention is invited to the following letter from Dr. M. H. Mills, a gentleman of wealth and high standing in Mount Morris, Livingston county, in the western part of the State of New York:

MOUNT MORRIS, N. Y., September 15, 1876.

*General J. W. Denver, President &c., Washington, D. C.*

DEAR SIR: On behalf of the veterans of the Mexican war residing outside of the city of New York, and within the State, I desire to enter my protest, and to raise my voice in opposition to the action of the New York city veterans in withdrawing from the National Association of Veterans of the Mexican War, and forming an independent

State organization, if it is to be supposed their action carries us with them. Such action cannot be considered as binding on us, or to carry us with it. That it was unauthorized by us and we refuse to be bound by it, and ask you to appoint General Ward B. Burnett and some other member of the National Association, to represent that body in the State of New York.

Nearly thirty years have now elapsed since the close of the Mexican war. Its beneficent results to our country are now fully established and recognized. Those who took part in that war and served their country honorably, will go down to history as patriots. Let us then rather sustain, than try to break up a National Association of its surviving members, formed for the laudable and praiseworthy object of promoting the interests and welfare of all its members.

The National Association of Veterans has reached its present position and success by the continued efforts and painstaking and hard labor of a few individuals during the past three years. They have now again become officers of the Association by a large majority of the vote of its members, and to them, the Veterans of the Mexican war are wholly indebted to whatever influence this Association has throughout the country and in obtaining from Congress an equal recognition with the soldiers of other wars to bounties and emoluments for honorable service to their country, which it is confidently believed will now be speedily accomplished, from the progress and encouragements already made and received.

More than this, the Association proposes to collect, through its officers, additional materials, historical facts, legends and reminiscences connected with, and growing out of this war, that a more full and *complete* history of those who were engaged in it, and its beneficent results to the whole country, may be written, than has yet ever appeared.

In view of these great interests, which are national in their character, we say therefore, sustain the National Association. If any has to perish, let local or State organizations become the victims.

I remain, yours very truly,

M. H. MILLS.

When the above patriotic communication was received, President DENVER was absent in Ohio, and the Secretary transmitted a copy to that gallant officer, who Dr. M. suggested for Vice President, Gen. WARD B. BURNETT, to whom it will be remembered was awarded, in 1859, by the general voice of his brothers in-arms, the historical gold box presented by the city authorities of New York in 1819 to Major General ANDREW JACKSON, and by him bequeathed in his dying will "To that patriot of New York City who (should our happy country not be blessed with peace) shall be adjudged by his countrymen to have been the most distinguished in defence of his country and our country's rights." That the precious gift was worthily bestowed all who remember the gallant leader of the New York boys at Cerro Gordo, Contreras, Churubusco and Belen state will certify. Following is the reply to the Secretary's note above referred to :

ROOM 24, NO. 20 NASSAU STREET, New York, October 7, 1876.

A. M. KENADAY, Esq.:

My Dear Sir: Your note of the 27th ult. was duly received, and also your postal card of the 3d instant in regard to P. O. address of Dr. W. H. M. It was my desire to communicate with Dr. Mills before making a reply to your note, but as Mount Morris is so far from here, and I cannot do so personally, I hereby assent to the use of my name in any manner that you and General Denver may deem desirable for the furtherance of the great purpose in which you are both so zealously engaged.

I will accept the appointment of Vice President from the State of New York, and endeavor to attend the annual meeting in February to make a speech, sing a song, or tell a story with my old comrades in arms, as well as to do anything with the *outer world* that may tend to carry a pension law through Congress for the relief of our former comrades and the widows of those lost to us forever.

Very respectfully yours,

WARD B. BURNETT.

On laying the foregoing correspondence before General Denver on his return to the city, the President gave directions to place the names of General W. B. Burnett and Dr. M. H. Mills in the list of Vice Presidents and Council of Administration representing the National Association in New York State, and expressed the opinion that it would meet the hearty approval of every veteran whose name is now on the roll.

### OUR PENSION BILL IN CONGRESS.

Our Pension Bill, reported by the Committee of Invalid Pensions on the 24th February last, was printed and distributed to members last summer. Hon. G. W. Hewitt's report, which accompanied the bill, is substantially the same as that published on pages 15-16, Proceedings of 1875, as the "Views of the Minority of the Committee on Invalid Pensions of the 43d Congress." The bill will probably be amended in some important particulars when it comes up for action.

## IMPORTANT DECISION IN A BOUNTY LAND CASE.

*The Pension Bureau rejects a Mexican Veteran's Claim for Bounty Land on the ground of "disloyalty"—The Secretary of the National Association files an argument appealing to the Secretary of the Interior—The Department sustains the Pension Bureau and rejects the application under a law previously held by Secretary Delano to be unconstitutional and void—Urgent necessity of legislative action to prevent further injustice under this act of Congress—"An act that blurs the grace and blush" of chaste Columbia; which "takes the rose from her fair forehead and sets a blister there!"—After good old "Uncle Sam" pardoned and invited his prodigal sons to return and renew their pledge of fealty, they humbly ask a small gratuity standing to their credit for a quarter of a century, and are rejected with scorn and contumely by his proud officials—"Tarnation 'cute," perhaps, but nauseating to high-minded men!—Read, ponder and reflect!*

The following correspondence explains itself without further introduction:

HEADQUARTERS NATIONAL ASSOCIATION VETERANS OF THE MEXICAN WAR.

*Office of the Secretary,*

HON. Z. CHANDLER, *Sect'y of the Interior.*

WASHINGTON, D. C., August 30.

SIR: I have the honor to appeal from the decisions, herewith, of the Acting Commissioner of Pensions, on the application filed by me in that Bureau for bounty and warrants in behalf of Captain Wm. H. Ketcham of Mobile, Alabama, (a captain in volunteer regiment from Alabama,) and Captain James Lenow of Memphis, Tennessee, 1st Tennessee cavalry in the Mexican war, 1846.

Both of the above named gentlemen are members of this National Association which embraces nearly all the survivors of that war, and of which body I have the honor to be Secretary. It is in that capacity (being also their attorney) that I respectfully submit this appeal, in the belief and hope that your ripe judgment will induce you to correct the error which the Acting Commissioner has fallen into—perhaps through hesitation at over-ruling the precedents accepted by his absent principal, the Hon. Commissioner.

The requirement in Captain Lenow's case, that he, a citizen of Tennessee, shall file affidavits proving his loyalty *during the late rebellion* is a legal impossibility and is therefore as flat a denial of his bounty as the decision against Captain Ketcham.

It has been held by the Supreme Court that "All the people of each State or district, in insurrection against the United States must be regarded as enemies, until by the action of the legislature and the Executive, or otherwise, that relation is permanently and thoroughly changed." [Mrs. Alexander's cotton case, 2 Wallace.]

It follows, therefore, that all the people of Tennessee (and Alabama also) were *disloyal* from the date of the President's proclamations declaring those States in insurrection, down to the removal of the ban by proclamation in 1865. Captains Lenow and Ketcham were regarded by the courts as disloyal through the action of the States in which they resided.

The States, however, have since been restored to fellowship in the Union by proclamation of the Executive and by the action of Congress; and to say that the stigma of disloyalty still attaches to the humble citizen who derived it from the action of his State, is a most outrageous perversion o' law and justice—or to say that a resident of one of the late rebellious States shall still be held responsible ten years after the commonwealth of which he forms an infinitesimal part has been purged of its offence, seems to me a monstrous proposition.

It has been intimated that these rulings of the Pension Bureau are based upon what I conceive to be a strained interpretation of the act of March 2, 1867—Section 3480 Rev. Statutes—forbidding the settlement of any claim or account of a person who promoted, encouraged, or assisted the rebellion, *i. e.*, any disloyal person.

But Capt. Ketcham and Capt. Lenow have not demanded the payment of any *claim or account*. I have, in their behalf, simply filed their declarations supported by testimony, that they are the identical persons of whom the Government in its generosity declared *they shall receive a warrant entitling them to one hundred and sixty acres of land as a gratuity*, a complimentary recognition of faithful service to the country, not in fulfillment of a contract or agreement, and to which land they were declared by the law of 1855 to be entitled. They never have received the land to which they have title by the law above referred to, and no proper process of confiscation has divested them of their title. It is defined as a "Bounty Land-warrant." Judge Advocate General Holt (*Digest Opin.*, p. 68,) says:

"Bounty is held to be a *gratuity*, and neither *pay* nor *allowance*."

"A sentence [or resolution of Congress?] forfeiting 'pay and allowances' does not *seize* bounty."

In another case referred to in same connection, a soldier had by sentence "forfeited all pay and allowances due, and to become due for the balance of his term; but the end of his term finding him in an *honorable status*, he was therefore entitled to an *honorable discharge*, and having served the proper period entitled to bounty."

Again, on page 9:

"A *pardon*, which wholly relieves the soldier, before the termination of his service, from the disability or punishment, which would preclude his receiving an honorable discharge will restore his right to bounty whatever may have been his offense."

It surely follows that a pardon granted for an offense committed *after* he had acquired a right to bounty, restores his right to receive said bounty if not yet given him. Whatever offenses were committed by these soldiers, Captain Lenow and Captain Ketcham, have been

pardoned by the Executive.—See proclamations, March 26, 1864, 13 Stat. L., 741; May 29, 1865, *Ibid.*, 748; September 7, 1867, 15 Stat. L., 702; July 4, 1868, *Ibid.* 702; December 25, 1868, *Ibid.* 711. The last granting full pardon to all who participated in the rebellion.

Chief Justice Chase, in Mrs. Armstrong's case (13 *Wallace R.*, p. 154,) decided that the proclamation of December 25, 1868, granted pardon unconditionally and without reservation, relieving a party from all proof of loyalty, or of compliance with the conditions of preceding proclamations, or of a special pardon. This pardon blots out their offense."

The injustice of the Pension Bureau decisions, forfeiting the lands of these soldiers, eleven years after their alleged offence of disloyalty, despite the statute of limitations, cannot better be illustrated than by advertizing to the fact that hundreds, yea, thousands of comparatively youthful and robust *heirs* of deceased militiamen (who appeared for muster, perhaps, during 14 days on the Northern frontier, in 1812-15, without firing a gun at the enemy, or marching a day's journey from their homes,) are continually applying for and receiving this gratuity; while the old soldiers of the Mexican war who carried our flag into a far off foreign land, "suffering incredible hardships under a tropical sun and in a malarious climate, acquiring by their valor nearly a million of square miles," [Rep. 117 H. R. 44 Cong.] 640,000,000 acres of land, which have been added to the public domain, such men are ignored by the rulings established and hitherto enforced by officers of the Government in your Department.

The Pension bureau is *par excellence* the ornamental feature of our Government. Every patriotic American, irrespective of party, points to it with pride and admiration. When taxed beyond reason to sustain a horde of worthless plunderers—co-contractors, etc—it is only necessary for the tax collector to remind the honest citizen of the benefice of the Pension Bureau in maintaining, in their age and decrepitude, the veteran soldiers and sailors who have given imperishable renown to our flag throughout the land and across the seas—the loyal citizen is at once reconciled to the situation, and yields his tribute without a murmur. But if those same people were made acquainted with the fact, as they should be, that those who have been appointed to administer the affairs of this office seek to deprive worthy soldiers of a *free gift*, a *donation*, bestowed by the Government in due form of law, upon a quibbling pretext at variance with the best legal judgment in the country, the verdict of the American people would be, in my humble opinion, that such officers have not a proper conception of the paternal character of the Government; and at the ballot-box the people would take prompt and decisive measures to remedy the error.

I most respectfully request that the decisions referred to be reversed.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ALEXANDER M. KENADAY, *Secretary, &c.*

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR—PENSION OFFICE,

WASHINGTON, D. C., October 23d, 1876.

SIR: I have the honor to transmit herewith a copy of the decision of the Hon. Secretary of the Interior upon your appeal from the action of this office in the bounty-land claims of Joseph Lenow, No. 332,507, and William H. Ketcham, No. 332,530.

Very respectfully,  
J. A. BENTLEY, *Commissioner.*

A. M. KENADAY, Esq., Present.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR.

WASHINGTON, D. C., October 19, 1876.

*The Commissioner of Pensions:*

SIR: I return herewith the papers which accompanied your report of the 21st ult., in the cases of Joseph Lenow, No. 332,507, and William H. Ketcham, No. 332,530, claimants for bounty land on account of service in the war with Mexico, whose attorney, A. M. Kenaday, Esq., of this city appeals from the action of your office rejecting the claim of William H. Ketcham, on the ground that he aided and abetted the rebellion, and requiring evidence to show whether Lenow participated in the rebellion.

The law bearing upon the question arising in these cases, is contained in the joint resolution of March 2, 1867, which declares that it shall be unlawful for any officer of the United States Government to pay any account, claim, or demand against said Government which existed prior to the 13th of April, 1861, in favor of any person who promoted, encouraged, or in any manner sustained the late rebellion, or in favor of any person who during said rebellion, was not known to be opposed thereto, and distinctly in favor of its suppression.

The question whether this resolution applied to a claim for bounty land was considered on the 1st of Jan'y, 1876. In the decision of that date it was held "that the grant of a bounty land warrant is unquestionably a gratuity; a bounty as its name implies, which may be conferred upon such persons, or classes of persons as Congress shall choose to designate, from time to time, full power remaining in Congress after such designation to change or withdraw the same at pleasure, the right to obtain the warrant only continuing with the existence of the law granting the same." While the law remains in force the right to the warrant is the subject of a claim against the Government in the popular sense of the term, and in my opinion is a claim within the provisions of the joint resolution of March 2, 1867. In this class of cases Congress is not dealing with the right in property, and consequently no constitutional question is involved. The effect of the joint resolution then is to limit the class of persons entitled to bounty land warrants and to exclude from that class all those who would otherwise be entitled under the several acts of Congress, but who fall within the description of persons contained in the resolution. Proof of loyalty should therefore be required of persons residing in the late insurrectionary States who claim bounty land."

In the cases under consideration the department adheres to these views. Mr. Kenaday maintains that whatever offences were committed by the applicants in these cases were pardoned by the executive.

The joint resolution of March 2, 1867, however, expressly provides that no pardon heretofore granted, or hereafter to be granted, shall authorize the payment of any account, claim, or demand to which it refers. It is held by this department that Congress had the authority to make such restriction in regard to a gratuity granted by it,

The decision of the Supreme Court of the United States referred to by Mr. Kenaday was rendered in a case involving the right of property, and has therefore no bearing upon the applications under consideration. Your action in the cases is approved.

Very respectfully,

CHAS. T. GORHAM, Acting Secretary.

#### REMARKS ON THE FOREGOING.

The Honorable Secretary of the Interior appears to have entirely ignored a previous decision of the Department over which he presides, dated Februbry 27, 1875, to which his attention was respectfully invited after the appeal above printed was filed. The decision above referred to is published on pages 110-13 of the "Report of the Commissioner of the General Land Office for 1875." Secretary Delano, based on the learned opinion of Assistant Attorney General W. H. Smith, and several decisions of the Supreme Court therein cited, held the joint resolution of March 2, 1867 "*unconstitutional and void.*" The Assistant Attorney General, after quoting the decisions of the Supreme Court, declares that they are certainly conclusive of the following points, viz: 1st. That the effect of a pardon, either general or special, is to relieve a "claimant" from the necessity of proving his loyalty during the rebellion, as required by the statutes. 2d. That any statute establishing a different rule is unconstitutional, as abridging the power of pardon vested by the Constitution in the Executive. 3d. That the proclamation of December 25, 1868, was a general, unconditional, unlimited pardon and amnesty. Notwithstanding the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court has decided in the Armstrong case that the proclamation of December 25, 1868, has "blotted out the offence" of these Mexican soldiers, and notwithstanding a previous Secretary has decided the law upon which this decision is based to be unconstitutional, the Acting Secretary now overrides these high authorities and rests his case on the luminous doctrines laid down in his own previous decision of January 18, 1876, just come to light. The point set up by the Secretary of the Interior that "the decision of the Supreme Court referred to by Mr. Kenaday was rendered in a case involving the *right of property*, and has therefore no bearing upon the applications under consideration," is not sound when critically examined.

Webster defines "property" as "that to which a person has a legal title *whether in his possession or not*," &c. Now the law of 1855 declares these soldiers to be "entitled" [i. e. gives title to] to a land warrant upon presentation of proof of identity; the names of the beneficiaries were of record when the law was passed, and the services to the Government had been previously rendered, in recognition of which the donation of land was made. Though the land was not actually *in possession* of the soldier, their right and legal title to the same was undoubtedly conferred by the law, and the Department is commanded to issue the same when the required proof of identity is filed. Compliance with the law makes the warrant, and the land it calls for, the *property* of the soldier so complying, and he should not be deprived of his land without due process under the confiscation laws. The Department chooses to set aside the law donating it, however, and finds its excuse for so doing in a law previously shown to be unconstitutional, null and void.

This infamous statute [March 2, 1867] was passed with the evident design of bolstering up the public credit with foreign bondholders at the expense of public honor. It bears on its face a confession of its injustice and deception by anticipating a time when it is to be modified or repealed. It has been intimated by partisan writers, on more than one occasion during the political campaign, that this law might serve as a convenient instrument in the hands of miscreant political tricksters to wring from the holders of national securities a vast corruption fund wherewith to maintain such parties in power, and assuredly this backing and filling on the question of its enforcement gives some color of plausibility to the charge. But sooner or later the people will demand a decision by the highest legal tribunal, and not till then can our comrades obtain their rights, of which they have been defrauded by unfaithful agents. May Heaven speed the day! In the mean time veterans in the South who have not obtained their Bounty Land Warrants should not be deterred by this action from filing their applications. They may rest assured that no efforts will be spared to secure for them their just and legal rights.

Forwarded by A. M. KENADAY, Sec'y. &c., Lock Box 37, Washington, D. C.

# FOURTH ANNUAL REUNION

OF THE

## National Association

OF

# Veterans of the Mexican War,

HELD IN

WASHINGTON, D. C., FEBRUARY 22-23-24, 1877,

CONTAINING

Minutes of Proceedings; List of Officers; Names of Members present, arranged according to their services in Mexico; Report of the Secretary, showing number of names enrolled by States and by Regiments, &c.; Whole number of troops in Mexican War, and probable number of survivors; Proposed appointment of Historiographers for all the Regiments serving in Mexico, &c.; Review of the Pension Bill before Congress; Interview with Senate Pension Committee; Exposure of the errors in the Pension Office Estimate; Prospect of Success at next Session of Congress, &c., &c.

PREPARED AND PUBLISHED BY

**ALEXANDER M. KENADAY**  
*First Secretary.*

WASHINGTON:  
THOS. J. BRASHEARS, PRINTER.  
1877.

## "RALLY! ONCE AGAIN, MEN!"

The Secretary avails himself of a portion of the space on the cover of the pamphlet to assure his comrades that there is nothing discouraging in the situation of our cause. As soon as the 45th Congress assembles, on the 15th of October, the officers at Headquarters will renew the petition for a pension in behalf of their membership; and as the Pension Office vagaries in regard to the great number of survivors, and enormous appropriation required, have been exploded by the collection of vital statistics at Headquarters, which afford a reasonable basis for estimates, it is hard to conjecture what ground of opposition our adversaries will next stand upon. We should not, however, assume that victory is already achieved, but every member should exert whatever influence he possesses with the member of Congress from his District, and the Senators of his State, to obtain their influence in granting our just petition. The solicitation of the poorest man in the Association will command as much respect from an honorable Congressman, in a case of this kind, as the most distinguished officer, and no sentiment of excessive modesty or bashfulness should deter a member from lending a helping hand to the cause.

Respectfully submitted,

ALEX. M. KENADAY, Secretary.

## THE THREE-MONTHS EXTRA PAY BILL.

The Act of July 19, 1848, granting three months extra pay to honorably discharged soldiers of the Mexican War, was REPEALED by the Act of July 12, 1870, which act also *repudiated* honest debts of the Government for horses lost by mounted volunteers in the Mexican War. Last year, it will be remembered, the Hon. H. Y. Riddle, of Tenn., procured the passage of a bill by the House to revive the three-months extra pay law, *but it failed to receive the concurrence of the Senate* before the close of the session. Efforts will be made to get it through the next Congress.

**APOLOGETIC.**—For nearly two months since the adjournment of Congress the Secretary was confined to his room by severe illness, and a large number of letters received from members have not received the attention which he would have otherwise given them.

ALEXANDER M. KENADAY,  
U. S. CLAIMS ATTORNEY,

525 Sixth Street, N. W., Washington, D. C.,

RESPECTFULLY announces that he has commenced the business of  
ATTORNEY FOR THE PROSECUTION OF CLAIMS IN ALL THE DEPART-  
MENTS OF THE GOVERNMENT AND BEFORE THE  
COMMITTEES OF CONGRESS.

Having had six years' experience in one of the Departments of the Government as an EXAMINER OF CLAIMS, (from which he resigned in 1874 on account of increased duties growing out of his position as Secretary of the Mexican War Veterans,) he is enabled to bring to bear in his present vocation a knowledge and familiarity with the details of the business of a SOLICITOR OF CLAIMS that will render him useful to those who may do him the honor to entrust their business to his management. Through his official connection with the members of the National Association from the very incipiency of the organization of Mexican War Veterans he has prepared complete lists of comrades and their residences, arranged by States, regiments, &c., which will enable him to be of *valuable assistance* in the presentation of SOLDIERS' AND SAILORS' CLAIMS FOR BOUNTY, EXTRAS, PAY, OR TERMMASTERES' STORES and all classes of accounts against the Government. He respectfully solicits a share of patronage from his comrades and their friends, which will be faithfully attended to.

Address—

A. M. KENADAY, P. O. Lock Box 37 Washington, D. C.

# “FOURTH ANNUAL REUNION”

OF THE

## National Association

OF

# Veterans of the Mexican War,

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PREPARED AND PUBLISHED BY

**ALEXANDER M. KENADAY**

First Secretary.

— — — — —

WASHINGTON:  
THOS. J. BRASHEARS, PRINTER.  
1877.

# List of Members at Fourth Annual Convention.

## CLASSIFIED BY REGIMENTS.

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### REGULARS.—BY REGIMENTS, &c.

DRAGOONS.....—1st Regiment.—Bvt. Capt. John Love; 2d Regt.—Bvt. Maj. Geo. A. H. Blake; 3d—Sergt. A. M. Kenaday. (Dupern's Co. 2d Batt.) MOUNTED RIFLEMEN.—Capt. John G. Walker, Lieut. Wm. B. Lane, Lieut. Joseph B. Collins, Robert F. Martin, John T. Lynch, Addison Dent. Marcellus Wilson.

ARTILLERY.....—1st Regiment.—Michael B. Bowles, Andrew Russell, John Eckweiler, 2d —Theo. Clifton, Dominic Duffy, Albert Gruher, Samuel A. Pitts, N. H. Stevens, John Waters, Reuben Sugden. 3d—Bvt. Capt. W. T. Sherman, Lt. A. E. Burnside, Thomas W. Sims, Ralph J. Squire. 4th—Lt. S. M. Gouverneur, Sergt. Maj. E. R. Biles, James Bremner, Hezekiah Gushall, Ordnance Siege Train—Stark B. Taylor, Joseph M. McCauley, James Noonan.

VOLTIGEURS.....—1st Lieut. James Tilton, Isaiah Dean, Thomas Johnson, J. B. Merritt, Benjamin Ogie.

INFANTRY.....—1st Regiment.—A. R. French, 2d—Bvt. Maj. S. P. Heintzelman, William Anderson, Martin Kelly. 3d—Peter H. Allabach. 4th—Bvt. Maj. Benj. Alvord, Sergt. Theodore Gregg. 5th—Charles F. Bowers, Bernard Donhauff, Nicholas Fooks, Charles Becker, Chester Andrews. 6th—Thomas Bridges, Hugh Masterson. 7th—Bvt. 1st Lieut. S. B. Maxey, John G. Brayman, Sergt. Peter Maloney, 8th—Lieut. T. G. Pitcher, James Watts. 9th—Col. Jones M. Withers, Bvt. Lt. Col. F. T. Lally, John F. Marsh. 10th—Capt. Robert C. Morgan, Robert Hamilton. 11th—John Meyers. 12th—Captain James W. Denver, Willard Ayers. 13th—Lt. Col. J. M. Withers. 15th—J. M. H. Martin. 16th—Lt. S. V. Niles, Chas. R. Otis.

Q. M. DEPT.....—Lt. Col. Charles Thomas, Capt. Alex. Montgomery, Capt. G. V. Hebb, Thomas Croggin, James Foy, A. G. Boone, David Jackson, Edward Johannes.

U. S. MARINES.....—John Fallon, Chris. Long, Anton Lehmann, Maurice O'Conner, John Roach, Theodore Sniffin, Peter Weber.

U. S. NAVY.....—Surgeon Chas. D. Maxwell, Lt. Fabius Stanly, Passed Midshipman J. N. T. Arnold, Van Rensselaer Morgan, Joseph Mollere, Francis O'Neill, John Browers, Daniel Boston, J. W. Davis, Charles W. Gordon, James McDonough, Francis Merritt, John Thompson, John R. Gould, Levy Louis, John Hendley.

### VOLUNTEERS—BY STATES.

ALABAMA.....—Lt. W. H. Forney, 4th Inf.

ARKANSAS.....—Captain Albert Pike, 1st Cavalry.

CALIFORNIA.....—Captain John A. Sutter.

INDIANA.....—1st Inf.—John Carter, 3d do—Lt. John M. Lord, Nehemiah Hayden, 4th do—Capt. Edward Lander, 5th—Lt. J. M. Lord.

ILLINOIS.....—1st Inf.—George S. Fisher, 3d—J. S. Warmoth. Cavalry—George F. White, Lt. John A. Logan, R. Q. M., Richard J. Oglesby.

## LIST OF MEMBERS AT FOURTH ANNUAL CONVENTION

5

**IOWA**.....—John C. Martin, Morgan's cavalry.

**KENTUCKY**.....—1st Cavalry—Lieut. Green Clay Smith, 1st Inf.—Francis M. Schell, 4th—Chas. D. Pennebaker.

**LOUISIANA**.....—3d Inf.—Capt. G. Mason Graham, A. M. Kenaday, Edward Byrne. Independent company—Captain J. R. West.

**MARYLAND**.....—1st Batt. Md. and D. C. Vols., Capt. F. B. Schaeffer, Con A. Blanchard, Thos. Dwyer, Patrick H. English, A. J. Hurdle, Thomas P. Morris, H. B. Robertson, John Wood, George Eastnaught, Wm. E. Dement, Gilbert Murdock, 2d Regt. Md. and D. C. Vols.—Capt. W. H. Degges, Capt. F. B. Schaeffer, Lt. F. A. Klepfer, Lt. Benj. R. West, Sgt. Maj. John Brannan, Samuel Clark, Daniel Smith, Wm. H. Nalley, Henry Ingle, Patrick Gormley, Alfred Fairall, Charles Kloman, John H. Locke, Joshua Lloyd, J. B. Llewellyn, George W. McLane, John H. Thompson, Fannin Bernard, David G. Murray, John G. Fury, Anthony Gray.

**MASSACHUSETTS**—Capt. Edward A. Paul, Nelson Felt.

**MICHIGAN**.....—Lt. Col. Alpheus S. Williams

**MISSISSIPPI**.....—Capt. A. B. Corwine, E. A. Peyton, 1st Rifles; Capt. J. B. Deason, W. B. Tanner, 2d Rifles.

**MISSOURI**.....—Wm. A. Piper, W. L. Parrin, Stephen Decatur, H. G. Fane, of 1st Cavalry, Lt. Thomas T. Crittenden, 3d Cav.; John Jackson, 4th Cav.; Captain James Craig, 5th Cav.; John T. Neale, Batt. Art.; Myron H. Mills, A. A. Surgeon

**NEW YORK**.....—S. G. Merrill and A. A. Green, 1st (Cal.) Inf.; W. B. Parisen, M. L. Dorn, 2d Burnett's Inf.

**OHIO**.....—Capt. S. W. Johnston, 1st Inf., Samuel C. Mickum, 2d Inf., Lt. Col. George W. Metcalf, Lt. Isaac E. Eaton, 3d Inf., Charles N. Allen, 4th Inf.; Lieut. R. B. Mitchell, Mahlon D. Montis, 5th Inf.

**PENNSYLVANIA**.....—Edward Atkins, H. M. Cole, 1st Inf.; Lt. J. C. Kretschmar, Lt. J. A. Doyle, 2d Infantry.

**TENNESSEE**.....—Wm. J. Smith, Wheat's Rangers.

**TEXAS**.....—J. W. Throckmorton, 5th Cav.

**VIRGINIA**.....—Capt. E. C. Currington, Capt. M. D. Corse, Lieut. W. M. Levy, L. A. Fitzhugh, Wm. Hegan, John L. Hunter.

**WISCONSIN**.....—John A. Clark, Knowlton's Cav.

**MISCELLANEOUS**.....—Record not on File; John Dollinger, Wm. Colligan, Wm. L. Tidball, Wm. Williams

FOURTH ANNUAL REUNION  
OF THE  
NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF VETERANS  
OF THE  
MEXICAN WAR.

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WASHINGTON, D. C., February 22, 1877.

At 11 o'clock, a. m., in accordance with the programme adopted by the Committee of Arrangements of the local "Association of Veterans of 1846," the National Association assembled at Willard Hall, which had been engaged for the purpose. The stage was appropriately decorated with flags of the army and navy, and seats were arranged thereon for the president and vice presidents of the several State and Territorial organizations. The chairs in the rear of the hall were free to spectators, while enrolled members occupied the front on presentation of credential cards, certifying them as entitled to participate in the proceedings of the National Association.

The following gentlemen composed the committees of Reception and of Arrangements on the part of the District of Columbia Association:

*Reception Committee*.—Gen. J. W. Denver, President; General W. T. Sherman, Maj. Gen. S. P. Heintzelman, Brig. Gen. Benj. Alvord, Col. T. G. Pitcher, Lt. Col. Alex. Meutgomery, Major A. J. Dallas, all of U. S. A.; Rear Admiral F. Stanly, Surg. Gen. C. D. Maxwell, Capt. A. W. Johnson, Commander H. N. T. Arnold, all of U. S. N.; Gen. Albert Pike, Gen. T. T. Crittenden, Gen. G. Mason Graham, Col. F. T. Lally, Hon. Edward Lander, A. M. Kenaday, Secretary.

*Committee of Arrangements*.—Messrs. M. D. Moutis, S. V. Niles, H. G. Fant, S. G. Merrill, J. T. Lynch, Joshua Clark, David Jackson, Col. P. H. Allabach, Col. Theo. Gregg, Daniel Smith, John T. Norris, James Foy, John Brannan, A. J. Hurdle.

The hall was comfortably filled with members, and spectators residing in Washington, who attended to witness the opening of proceedings.

Gen. JAMES W. DENVER, the President of the National Association, at 11:15 called the meeting to order, greeting the members from abroad with a hearty welcome, and congratulating them on the prospect of speedy action by the Senate upon the memorial submitted to Congress three years ago, in behalf of their old comrades. The bill, which embraced all the material points asked for by the Convention of January, 1874, had met, he said, with signal favor in the House of Representatives, where it passed on the 4th of January, and was now before the Senate Committee on Pensions, to whom had also been referred resolutions from twelve or fifteen State Legislatures strongly urging its passage. He thought if the members of the Convention present urged its consideration with some degree of energy there was little doubt of success even during this troubled session; and that if it failed now we would have to perform all our work over again, and God only knows how many of us would be spared to enjoy its benefits in that event. Most of us are well past the meridian of life now, said the

President, and the vast majority of our members look to those of us who can afford to attend these annual reunions to accomplish a good work in their behalf while enjoying also a brief visit to the Capital of the nation.

The President, at the conclusion of his remarks, directed the Secretary, Mr. A. M. KENADAY, to read the Constitution and By-Laws of the Association for the information and guidance of members in their deliberations, to wit: [For more convenient reference the Constitution, By-Laws (which should appear in this connection) and "Order of Business," are printed on page two of this pamphlet.]

A proposition was here made for the appointment of a "Committee on Credentials," but the President thought such action unnecessary inasmuch as the Constitution just read and the records would show who were entitled to membership; and he suggested that those veterans present who had not registered their names prior to the meeting, should now come forward.

Several new names were added to the roll of members present. [The complete list of members in attendance is printed on pages 4 and 5 of this pamphlet.]

The roll of officers was then called when the following were found to be registered and in attendance: President, Gen. J. W. Denver; 1st Vice President, Gen. John Love, of Indiana; Secretary, Alex. M. Kenaday; Marshal, Gen. E. K. Biles, of Penn.; Treasurer, Capt. Samuel V. Niles; Finance Committee, Major Gen. S. P. Heintzelman, U. S. A.; Capt. S. V. Niles, and Mahlon D. Montis, Esq. And the following V. P. and C. of A., viz: Gen. Benjamin Alvord, for the Army; Rear Admiral Fabius Stanly, for the Navy; Gen. Albert Pike, of D. C.; Col. George S. Fisher, of Georgia; Gen. G. Mason Graham, for La.; Col. Joseph H. Ruddach, for Md.; Gen. Alpheus S. Williams, for Michigan; Capt. Charles F. Bowers, for New Jersey; Dr. M. H. Mills, for New York; Col. C. N. Allen, for Ohio; Gen. A. E. Burnside, for Rhode Island; Gen. S. B. Maxey, for Texas; Gen. James Tilton, for Washington Territory; M. L. Dorn, for West Virginia.

During the roll-call of officers an animated discussion took place in regard to the correctness of the report of proceedings at Philadelphia, and the distribution of badges, which threatened some disturbance of the harmony which ought to prevail, but Gen. John Love, of Indiana, averted it by a few well chosen remarks, concluding by offering the following resolution, which passed unanimously:

*Resolved.* 1.—That a committee of five be appointed to examine and report upon any differences which may exist as to the minutes of the Philadelphia meeting. 2.—That this committee report whether the will of the Association has been carried out in the selection, manufacture and distribution of the Badge. 3.—Any other matters touching the good and welfare of the Association.

The following gentlemen were selected by the President as said Committee: Gen. John Love, (1st. V. P.) of Indiana; Col. Joseph H. Ruddach, President of the Baltimore Association; Judge J. B. Deason, President of the Mississippi State Association; Gen. Edwin R. Biles, of Philadelphia Scott Legion, and Marshal of the National Association; Mahlon D. Montis, Esq., of Ohio, member of Finance Committee.

The Convention took a recess to enable the Committee of Inquiry to hear the testimony and statements, and to deliberate on the important questions submitted to them.

[The proceedings before the Committee of Inquiry are withheld from publication at this time by request of the Finance Committee.]

After the recess, on motion of Col. James Craig, the Chair appointed the following gentlemen as a special committee to wait upon the President of the United States and ascertain at what hour it would be convenient to receive the members of the Association in a body, who desired to pay their respects to the Chief Magistrate of the Nation, viz: Col. James Craig, Col. I. S. Warmoth and Gen. T. T. Crittenden.

[The Committee reported, at a later stage of the proceedings, that President Grant would be happy to meet the members at 11½ o'clock, a. m., to-morrow, February 23d.]

On motion of Gen. George W. McCook, a special committee of one member from each State present, was authorized to confer with the Senate Pension Committee, and to respectfully urge immediate action upon the bill now before them, which had passed the House early in January.

A request was also embodied in the resolution that the Senators and Representatives in Congress who had served in the Mexican War, should also be invited to co-operate with the Committee of the Association.

The following gentlemen were named by the body of the meeting and appointed by the President as said Committee :

*For the Association at Large.*—Gen. Geo. W. McCook, of Ohio; Gen. John Love, of Indiana; Gen. T. T. Crittenden, of District of Columbia; President J. W. Denver and Secretary A. M. Kenaday.

*Senators and Representatives.*—Senators John A. Logan and R. J. Oglesby, of Ill.; A. E. Burnside, of Rhode Island; S. B. Maxey, of Texas; J. R. West, of La. Representatives, Wm. A. Piper, of Cal.; Wm. R. Morrison, of Ill., Wm. M. Levy, of La.; J. W. Forney, of Ala.; J. W. Throckmorton, of Texas; Alpheus S. Williams, of Mich.

*Alabama*.....Capt. George V. Hebb.  
*Arkansas*.....Willard Ayers.  
*California*.....Gen. John A. Sutter.  
*Colorado*.....Col. Stephen Decatur.  
*Dist. Columbia*.....Capt. F. A. Klopfer.  
*Georgia*.....Col. George S. Fisher.  
*Illinoi*s.....C. R. Otis, Esq.  
*Indiana*.....Hon. Edward M. Lander.  
*Kansas*.....Col. Isaac E. Eaton.  
*Kentucky*.....Gen. Green Clay Smith.  
*Louisiana*.....Edward Byrne, Esq.  
*Maryland*.....L. F. Beeler, Esq.  
*Massachusetts*.....Col. John F. Marsh.  
*Michigan*.....Gen. A. S. Williams.  
*Minnesota*.....A. R. French, Esq.

*Mississippi*.....E. A. Peyton, Esq.  
*Missouri*.....John Jackson, Esq.  
*Nevada*.....Frank M. Schell, Esq.  
*New Jersey*.....Capt. Charles. F. Bowers.  
*New York*.....W. L. Tidball, Esq.  
*North Carolina*.....Wm. T. Tanner, Esq.  
*Ohio*.....Charles N. Allen, Esq.  
*Oregon*.....Gen. James Tilton.  
*Pennsylvania*.....Gen. E. R. Biles.  
*Tennessee*.....Hon. W. J. Smith.  
*Texas*.....Col. L. H. Fitzhugh.  
*Virginia*.....Gen. M. D. Corse.  
*West Virginia*.....Dr. John H. Hunter.  
*Wisconsin*.....John A. Clark, Esq.

The President announced that information had been privately received from the Capitol that the delegation would have a hearing before the Senate Committee on Pensions, to-morrow, at 2 p. m.

#### THE FINDING OF THE COMMITTEE ON INQUIRY.

Gen. John Love, of Indiana, presented the following, which was unanimously adopted by the Association :

MR. PRESIDENT: Your Committee appointed under the following resolution, to wit: “*Resolved*.—1st. That a Committee of five be appointed to examine and report upon any differences which may exist as to the minutes of the Philadelphia meeting; 2d. That this Committee report whether the will of the Association has been carried out in the selection, manufacture and distribution of the Badge; 3d. Any other matters touching the good and welfare of the Association.” Beg leave to report the following:

In regard to the published report of the proceedings of the Association at Philadelphia, we recommend that the following corrections be made: That the officers named by the New York Association were Col. W. L. Tidball, as Vice President, and Wm. Colligan as Council of Administration; and that the nominations made by that delegation must have evidently escaped the ear of the President.

Your Committee further report that the will of the Association has been carried out in the *selection, manufacture and distribution* of the Badge, and recommend the adoption of the following resolution :

*Resolved*, That the members of the Association be permitted to wear the Badge in any metal or size, conforming only to the design heretofore adopted \*

[SIGNED]	JOHN LOVE,	Committee.
	J. H. RUDDACH,	
	J. B. DEASON,	
	M. D. MONTIS, E. R. BILES,	

#### THANKS TENDERED TO PRESIDENT AND SECRETARY.

On motion of Capt. Charles F. Bowers, V. P., for New Jersey, the following resolution was adopted :

*Resolved*, That the thanks of the National Association of the Mexican War Veterans be tendered to the President, Gen. J. W. Denver, and to Alex. M. Kenaday, Esq., Secretary, for their unremitting efforts in promoting the interest of this Association and of all local organizations.

#### ANNUAL REPORT OF THE SECRETARY.

The President called for the reading of the Secretary's annual exhibit of the work of the Association, pertaining to his office, which is herewith given in full.

#### SECRETARY KENADAY'S REPORT.

GEN. J. W. DENVER, *Pres. Nat. Ass'n of Veterans of the Mexican War.*

GENERAL: The transactions of my office since last July, when the Secretary's Annual Report for 1876 was submitted and approved by the members assembled in Philadelphia, are summed up as follows :

#### PRINTING PROCEEDINGS OF CENTENNIAL REUNION.

The meeting at Philadelphia having provided no means for printing and circulating its proceedings, there was no other alternative but to print them at my individual expense. The Finance Committee of the Association were naturally averse to another experiment in levying assessments on the States through the several Vice Presidents and Councils of Administration, who could, in most cases, respond only by drawing on their own pockets, and I consented to an arrangement, which was published in the pamphlet over the names of the committee, by which each recipient of the book was requested by the committee to contribute 50 or 25 cents, or such smaller donation in postage stamps as he might feel able to give for that purpose. A book has been prepared in which all donations of this character, amounting to 10 cents and upward, have been entered in alphabetical order, with date of reception, which shows the total receipts to date, \$153.95. The cost of the pamphlet, in detail, was as follows: Printing, folding, and stitching, \$154.77; paper, \$100; 7,000 newspaper wrappers, \$78.40; directing same, \$28. Total \$361.17. Being a loss on actual outlay of \$207.22.

During the year 1876 two other publications were made by me and circulated to all the membership, the first being the proceedings of the meeting of officers on the 22d of February and the second, in June, containing the change of programme at Philadelphia, with the correspondence relative to free passes from Texas and California, and change of programme at Philadelphia.

\* NOTE.—In accordance with the above resolution, and in compliance with the expressed wishes of many members, an exact copy of the patented medal in MINIATURE SIZE (suitable for a watch-charm or pin) will be manufactured and sold only to those who have proven themselves entitled to the larger medal, and whose names are enrolled and numbered on the Register of the National Association. See notice on the cover of pamphlet.

## WHOLE NUMBER OF KNOWN SURVIVORS, RESIDING IN THE SEVERAL STATES.

[Feb. 22, 1877.]

It will be remembered that my last annual report showed the whole number of survivors whose names and residences had been learned and grouped together by States, footed up about 5,500. To-day they number about 6,250. The increase is owing to the wider publicity given to the movement by the Centennial meeting. The State lists foot up as follows, Feb. 20, 1877 :

Alabama.....	130	Nevada and Territories.....	285
Arkansas .....	228	New England States.....	96
California.....	840	New York.....	183
Dist. of Columbia.....	167	North Carolina.....	96
Georgia .....	36	Ohio.....	315
Illinois.....	553	Oregon.....	93
Indiana .....	188	Pennsylvania.....	246
Iowa.....	132	South Carolina.....	71
Kansas.....	110	Tennessee.....	253
Kentucky .....	161	Texas.....	789
Louisiana.....	116	Virginia.....	200
Maryland.....	112	West Virginia.....	37
Michigan.....	177	Wisconsin .....	117
Minnesota.....	65		
Mississippi.....	220	Total.....	6,250
Missouri.....	228		

I have, in addition to the above, names enough to swell the total to 7,000, perhaps; but the residences and doubtful records of service of the additional 750 hardly warrant me in enrolling them as members, and I will not be justified in forwarding prepaid printed matter to them after this year, without some assurance by written acknowledgment that the parties to whom it is sent receive the same.

During the past year considerable labor has been expended in eliminating from the statements of service filed with the Secretary, which constitute the records of the Association, such information as cannot fail to prove interesting to members and to the general public. This *memoranda* classifies the names of members by State regiments and companies, etc., (that is, those persons who have made "written application" to be enrolled as members, supplying full information in regard to their service in the Mexican war.) The subjoined table, prepared from this *memoranda*, shows the number of survivors who have literally complied with Art. VI of the Constitution of the Association, in respect to their becoming members of the same, and who should be so regarded, without further ceremony, on acceptance of this report. It also shows the number of persons who have been supplied with the medal-badge, which is the insignia of membership. It will be seen that the Volunteer Regiments, Battalions, etc., are numbered in accordance with the date of muster into U. S. service as reported by the Adjutant General of the Army, December 3, 1849, and it was absolutely necessary to adopt this system for the sake of uniformity in keeping our records, and in marking the badges.

The aggregate of members thus far enrolled is 4,629, leaving only 1,621 (of the 6,250) yet to complete their claim to membership by a full statement of their services. The number of medals issued, to date, is 3,097.

## STATEMENT SHOWING NUMBER OF ENROLLED MEMBERS BY REGIMENTS, &amp;c.

REGULAR ESTABLISHMENT. COMMANDING OFFICER.

		Number with Badges.	Enrolled, but without Badges.	Total.
Engineers, Topographical.....	Col. J. J. Abert.....	1	...	1
Engineers.....	" J. G. Totten.....	2	...	2
Ordnance Department.....	" H. K. Craig.....	18	3	21
First Dragoons.....	" R. B. Mason.....	32	7	39
Second Dragoons.....	" W. S. Harney.....	33	8	41
Third Dragoons.....	" E. G. W. Butler.....	45	7	52
Mounted Riflemen.....	" P. F. Smith.....	41	18	59
First Artillery.....	Lt. Col. Benj. K. Pierce..	28	16	44
Second "	Col. J. Bankhead.....	31	11	42
Third "	" W. Gates.....	40	12	52
Fourth "	Lt. Col. M. M. Payne.....	25	17	42
First Infantry.....	Col. W. Davenport.....	26	10	36
Second Infantry.....	" B. Riley .....	32	13	45
Third "	Lt. Col. E. A. Hitchcock	27	10	37
Fourth "	" John Garland.....	21	12	33
Fifth "	" J. S. McIntosh.....	32	16	48
Sixth "	Col. N. S. Clarke .....	20	23	43
Seventh "	Lt. Col. J. Plympton.....	20	11	31
Eighth "	Col. W. J. Worth.....	16	7	23
Ninth "	Cols. Ramson & Withers	21	11	32
Tenth "	Col. R. E. Temple.....	20	6	26
Eleventh "	" A. C. Ramsey.....	27	12	39
Twelfth "	" M. L. Bonham.....	23	12	35
Thirteenth "	" R. M. Echols.....	22	9	31
Fourteenth "	" W. Trousdale.....	13	10	23
Fifteenth "	" G. W. Morgan .....	48	20	68
Sixteenth "	" J. W. Tibbatts.....	30	19	49
Voltigeurs.....	" T. P. Andrews.....	29	6	35
Marine Corps.....	" A. Henderson.....	20	6	26
Revenue Marine.....	Acting with Navy.....	3	...	3
Navy.....	Gulf & Pacific Sq.....	167	35	202
Medical Department.....	Hosp. Stewards etc.....	3	...	3
Quar. Mt. Department.....	Wagonmasters, etc.....	62	...	62
Total,		978	347	1325

	COMMANDING OFFICER.	Number with Badges.	Enrolled, but without Badges.	Total.
VOLUNTEERS.				
Regiments, &c., numbered according to date of muster, as per Adjutant General's report of Dec. 3, 1849.				
ALABAMA.....	1st Reg. Inf..	Col. J. M. Withers.....	3	3
	2d Batt. " ..	Lt. Col. P. H. Raiford...	2	5
	3d Batt. " ..	Capt. W. H. Pratt.....		
	4th Reg. " ..	Col. J. R. Coffey.....	51	82
	5th Batt. " ..	Maj. J. I. Seibels.....	20	34
	Cavalry Co... .	Capt. J. McGee.....	2	5
ARKANSAS.....	1st Reg Cav.. .	Col. A. Yell.....	46	55
	2d Batt. "	" W. Gray.....	4	5
	3d Co. "	Capt. S. B. Enyart.....	1	1
CALIFORNIA . . .	Batt. Vols. &c.	Lt. Col. J. C. Fremont...	41	44
FLORIDA.....	Co. Infantry.. .	Capt. R. G. Livingston..	2	2
GEORGIA.....	1st Reg Inf.. .	Col. H. R. Jackson.....	13	17
	2d Batt. " ..	Lt. Col. J. G. Seymour...	8	9
	Cav. Battalion	" J. H. Calhoun....	11	15
	Cavalry Co... .	Capt. J. Loyall.....		2
ILLINOIS.....	1st Reg. Inf.. .	Col. J. J. Hardin.....	47	76
	2d Reg. Inf.. .	" W. H. Bissell.....	23	111
	3d " " ..	" F. Foreman.....	15	64
	4th " " ..	" E. D. Baker.....	28	68
	5th " " ..	" E. W. B. Newby.....	15	40
	6th " " ..	" J. Collins.....	10	22
	1st Cav. Com.	Capt. A. Dunlap.....	6	13
	2d " "	" W. B. Stapp.....	10	19
	3d " "	" M. K. Lawler.....	1	1
	4th " "	" J. Littell.....	1	7
INDIANA.....	1st Reg. Inf.. .	Col. J. P. Drake.....	39	59
	2d " " ..	" Joseph Lane.....	17	31
	3d " " ..	" J. H. Lane .....	15	48
	4th " " ..	" W. A. Gorman.....	25	39
	5th " " ..	" J. H. Lane.....	24	50
IOWA.....	1st Cav. Co ..	Capt. J. Parker.....		
	2d " " ..	" J. M. Morgan.....	3	3
	1st Inf. " ..	" " " ..	2	2
	Mormon Batt.	Lt. Col. P. St. G. Cooke..	15	16
KENTUCKY.....	1st Reg. Cav.	Col. H. Marshall.....	25	53
	1st " Inf.	" S. Ormsby.....	26	36
	2d " "	" W. R. McKee.....	23	36
	3d " "	" M. V. Thompson..	19	31
	4th " "	" J. S. Williams ..	27	59
	Indep't Co....	Capt. J. S. Williams.....	1	1
LOUISIANA.....	Ar. & Inf. Batt	Maj. L. Gally.....	3	3
	2d Inf. Regt.	Col. J. B. Walton.....	9	14
	3d " "	" S. F. Marks.....	20	24
	4th " "	" J. H. Dakin.....	7	9
	5th " "	" H. Davis.....	9	13
	6th " "	" Balie Peyton.....	19	20
	7th " "	" E. Featherston..	14	16
	Cav. Batt.....	Lt. Col. W. F. Biscoe....	14	14
	Ind'pt Int. Co.	Capt. A. G. Blanchard..		
	10 h Inf. Reg.	Col. L. G. De Russy....	18	23
	11th Inf. Batt.	Lt. Col. C. Fiesca.....	8	8

VOLUNTEERS.		COMMANDING OFFICER.	Number with Badges.	Enrolled, but without Badges.	Total.
Regiments, &c., numbered according to date of muster, as per Adjutant General's report of Dec. 3, 1849.					
MD. & DIST. COL. 1st Inf. Batt.	Lt. Col. W. H. Watson	33	10	43	
2d Reg. Vols.	Col. G. W. Hughes	39	17	56	
MASSACHUSETTS: Infantry Regt.	" C. Cushing	25	9	34	
MICHIGAN..... Infantry Regt.	" T. B. W. Stockton	28	18	46	
Ind. Company	Capt. M. L. Gage	1	...	1	
MISSISSIPPI..... 1st Infantry...	Col. J. Davis	54	20	74	
2d " "	" R. Davis	45	22	67	
3d " "	" J. P. Anderson	21	5	26	
NEW MEX. VOLS. Company Cav.	Maj. S. Owens	1	...	1	
BENT'S RANGERS.....	Capt. Bent	1	...	1	
MISSOURI..... 1st Infantry...	Col. A. R. Easton	12	8	20	
2d " "	" "	14	2	16	
3d " "	Col. T. H. Holt	...	5	5	
1st Cavalry...	" A. W. Doniphan	40	26	66	
2d " "	" S. Price	40	18	58	
3d " "	Lt. Col. D. Willock	12	4	16	
4th " "	Col. J. Ralls	37	15	52	
5th " "	" L. E. Powell	9	2	11	
6th " "	" W. Gilpin	14	3	17	
Light Art. Bat.	Maj. M. L. Clarke	17	9	26	
Inf. Batt.....	" "	2	...	2	
NEW JERSEY..... Infantry Batt.	Lt. Col. J. Woodruff	8	1	9	
NEW YORK..... 1st Infantry...	Col. J. D. Stevenson	67	14	81	
2d Inf. 1423 en.	Col. Ward B. Burnett	33	106	139	
NORTH CAROLINA Infantry Reg.	Col. R. T. Paine	36	41	77	
OHIO..... 1st Infantry...	" A. M. Mitchell	19	12	31	
2d " "	" G. W. Morgan	19	20	39	
3d " "	" S. R. Curtis	38	35	73	
4th " "	" C. H. Brough	38	15	53	
5th " "	" W. Irvin	23	10	33	
1st Inf. Co...	Capt. W. Kenneally	...	...	...	
2d " "	" R. F. Riddle	1	...	1	
Cavalry " "	" J. R. Duncan	3	1	4	
Cp Wash. Vols	" Hawkins	1	...	1	
PENNSYLVANIA..... 1st Infantry...	Col. F. M. Wynkoop	48	7	55	
2d " "	" W. B. Roberts	49	22	71	
SANTA FE..... Battalion.....	Maj. R. Walker	12	4	16	
SOUTH CAROLINA Infantry Reg.	Col. P. M. Butler	32	15	47	
TENNESSEE..... Cavalry Reg...	" J. E. Thomas	30	17	47	
1st Inf. Regt.	" W. B. Campbell	46	11	57	
2d " "	" W. T. Haskell	37	16	53	
3d " "	" B. F. Cheatham	35	10	45	
4th " "	" R. Waterhouse	15	7	22	
5th " "	" G. R. McClellan	23	9	32	
Co. Rangers...	Cap. C. R. Wheat	4	2	6	
TEXAS..... 1st Cav. Regt.	Col. J. C. Hays	41	2	43	
2d " "	" G. T. Wood	53	3	56	
3d " "	" W. C. Young	23	7	50	
4th Inf " "	" A. S. Johnston	26	1	27	
5th Cav Batt.	Maj. M. H. Chevalier	24	4	28	
6th " Regt	Col. J. C. Hays	52	8	60	

	VOLUNTEERS.	COMMANDING OFFICER.	Number with Badges.	Enrolled, but without Badges.	Total.
REGIMENTS, &c., numbered according to date of muster, as per Adjutant General's report of Dec. 3, 1849.					
TEXAS.....	7th Cavalry...	Col. J. C. Hays.....	20	1	21
	8th Cav. Batt.	Maj. T. J. Smith.....	13	1	14
	9th " "	Lt. Col. P. H. Bell.....	15	2	17
	1st Rangers Co	Capt. J. T. Price.....	1	...	1
	2d " "	" P. H. Bell.....	1	...	1
	3d " "	" D. C. Cady.....	1	...	1
	4th " "	" B. McCulloch.....	5	2	7
	5th " "	" E. Chandler.....	1	...	1
	6th " "	" M. B. Gray.....	3	...	3
	7th Inf. Co...	" W. R. Shivers.....	...	...	...
	8th " "	" P. E. Conner.....	...	...	...
	9th " "	" M. B. Lamar.....	1	1	2
	10th " "	" S. P. Ross.....	...	...	...
	11th Spy Cav.	" B. McCulloch.....	4	...	4
	12th Indian "	" Blackbeaver.....	...	...	...
	Tex. Eng. C'ps	Maj. Anderson.....	1	...	1
	Tex. Vol. St'ff	Gen. J. P. Henderson.....	1	...	1
WALKER'S RANGERS CAV.		Capt. S. Walker.....	4	...	4
VIRGINIA.....	Reg. Infantry.	Col. J. F. Hamtramck.....	23	17	40
WISCONSIN.....	Inf. Company	Capt. W. Knowlton.....	2	2	4
Total of Volunteers, .....			2119	1185	3304
Total of Regulars, .....			978	347	1325
Aggregate Enrolled.....			3097	1532	4629

Analysis of the foregoing table shows an average of about 41 survivors to each of the 25 "Regular" regiments enumerated; an average of 45 survivors to the 5 Indiana "Volunteer" regiments; of 43 to 5 Kentucky regiments; and of 46 to the 5 Ohio regiments. It must be borne in mind that these calculations are based on a total of 4,629 of the enrolled survivors, being as far as my work, in this respect, has progressed to date. Now assuming that number to cover *one-half* of the whole number now living (say 9,258, which is a very liberal estimate in view of the zealous efforts made by the State and County associations to enroll *every survivor* in their midst, and amounts to 3,000 *more than we have any knowledge of*), it would show 82 survivors in each of the 25 "Regular" regiments; 90 to the Indiana, 86 to the Kentucky, and 92 to each of the Ohio regiments of volunteers. Or, say, 40 regiments, (400 companies,) show 3,400 survivors—equal to 8½ men to each company, the average being 97 men (rank and file) to the company. In another table it is shown there was a total of 1,033 companies in the war, 8½ to each company would therefore give a total of 8,780 survivors on this basis.

#### FORCES EMPLOYED DURING THE MEXICAN WAR.

For the information of members, and others who feel an interest in the subject, I have compiled a succinct statement, derived from a series of tables, most of which accompany the report of Gen. Roger Jones, Adjutant General of the Army, of December 3, 1849, in reply to a resolution of the House of Representatives of July 31, 1848, calling for "a statement of the military forces employed in the Mexican War." I have prepared this table with a special view to giving the *relative number of companies of soldiers sent by the several States*. There are

a few unimportant discrepancies in details, owing perhaps to typographical errors in the printed report; and it will be observed also that I assume 111 as the average strength of the 100 companies of the ten regiments raised in 1847 for during the war, including recruits, the total number being 11,186 officers and men. But notwithstanding these discrepancies in details, the "totals" at the foot of each column are correct, corresponding with the official table which forms the basis of the Adjutant General's report, above referred to, which is printed in Ex. Doc. No. 24, H. of R., 31st Congress 1st session.

STATES, &c.	VOLUNTEERS. New 10 Regts.					TOTAL.
	Number of Companies.	Number of Officers and Men.	Number of Companies.	Average number officers and men.	Total number of Companies.	
Alabama.....	33	3026	5	555	38	3581
Arkansas.....	16	1323	2	222	18	1545
California.....	11	571	...	...	11	571
Connecticut.....	...	...	2	222	2	222
Delaware.....	...	...	1	111	1	111
Dist. of Columbia and Maryland.....	14	1855	4	444	18	1799
Florida.....	4	370	1	111	5	481
Georgia.....	22	2132	3	333	25	2465
Illinois.....	64	6123	3	333	67	6456
Indiana.....	50	4585	5	555	55	5140
Iowa.....	9	838	1	111	10	949
Kentucky.....	51	4842	6	666	57	5508
Louisiana.....	87	7947	6	666	93	8613
Maine.....	...	...	4	444	4	444
Massachusetts.....	10	1057	...	...	10	1057
Michigan.....	10	1103	4	444	14	1547
Mississippi.....	25	2423	1	111	26	2534
Missouri.....	69	7016	4	444	73	7460
New Jersey.....	4	425	3	333	7	758
New Hampshire.....	...	...	2	222	2	222
New York.....	20	2396	8	888	28	3284
North Carolina.....	10	935	3	333	13	1268
Ohio.....	65	5536	5	555	70	6091
Pennsylvania.....	28	2503	9	999	32	3502
Rhode Island.....	...	...	1	111	1	111
South Carolina.....	11	1077	5	555	16	1632
Tennessee.....	57	5865	4	444	61	6309
Texas.....	105	8018	2	222	107	8240
Virginia.....	14	1320	6	666	20	1986
Wisconsin.....	2	146	1	111	3	257
Indep. Vols. (remustered).....	7	844	...	...	7	844
General Staff Vols.....	...	272	...	...	...	272
Naval forces.....	...	...	...	...	...	5000
Regular Army.....	...	...	...	...	150	15736
Total forces employed.....	783	73,532	100	11,186	1033	105,454

The following table will also be valuable in estimating in connection with my tabulated returns the probable number of survivors at this date. It is derived from the same official source, (Report of Adj't. Gen. Jones) and shows at a glance the proportion, if alive, who would be eligible to pension under the law we ask for.

*General view, showing the aggregate forces, after deducting casualties, etc., to be 67,000, in round numbers.*

	Total forces employed in the war.	Discharged for Disability.	Deaths from all causes.	Wounded in Battle.	Desertions.	Total to be deducted.
Regulars, (old establishment),.....	15736	1782	3554	1803	2247	
" (10 Regiments),.....	11186	766	2264	272	602	
Aggregate Regulars, .....	26922	2549	5818	2075	2849	
<b>VOLUNTEER FORCE.</b>						
General Staff,.....	272	.....	17	.....	.....	
Regiments and corps,.....	73260	7200	7061	1318	3876	
Naval forces .....	5000	.....	.....	.....	.....	
Total,.....	105454	9749	12896	3393	6725	22763
Number discharged without proceeding to Mexico. ....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	2778
Total deductions, .....	25541	.....	.....	.....	.....	25541
Aggregate, .....	79913	.....	.....	.....	.....	

The Adjutant General remarks on the tables from which the foregoing was derived, as follows :

"The statement C, [consisting of 13 large tables, 5 octavo pages each broadside] exhibits in detail, by States, regiments and corps, the whole number of volunteers *mustered into the service* from May, 1846; of which 16,887 are mounted men, 1129 artillery, and 55,244 infantry; making an aggregate of 73,260, including 3,131 commissioned officers. From this number *it is proper to deduct* the forces called out *neither* by authority of the War Department, nor under the Act of May 13, 1846, and also the number mustered and paid but soon after discharged, as supernumerary. In this class are embraced the 3 and 6-months men; 2 regiments of 12-months men from Ohio and Missouri, and one company from Iowa, amounting in all to 14,448; of which 2,778 *not being required to proceed to the seat of war* were discharged (except the Iowa company) *a few days after being mustered into service*. Deducting this class from the aggregate mustered into service (73,260) the force enrolled under the Act of May 13, 1846, and under the 5th section of the Act of March 3, 1847, ("which authorizes the President to accept the services of individual volunteers to fill vacancies, &c.) is about 58,812 officers and men."

I have to remark on the above extract, that while the three and six-months volunteers may have been "received without authority of law," nearly 12,000 actually performed service, and will be entitled to pension under the proposed law; but the 2,778 "not required to proceed to the seat of war" should be deducted in any estimates prepared on the subject, from the aggregate of those entitled to pensions and I have accordingly placed that number (2778) in the category of deductions for "disability" "deaths," "wounded" and "desertions." I consider it fair also to deduct the "disabled" and "wounded" from the aggregate, because it is presumable that they are now, or have been, on the *invalid* pension rolls since the war.

But I will not be content without still further deductions from the aggregate above found. The forces employed in the navy are taken from an official report of the Pension Commissioner, [1874] but I have no data convenient to show the casualties in that arm of the service. A very material reduction from the aggregate—79,913—may be found, however, in the *re-enlistment of volunteers and regulars during the war*. There is no means of ascertaining the exact number of men whose names are duplicated in the above, and who would only be entitled to one pension, under any law. Yet the official reports show that there were 1,399 three-month men; 11,211 six-month men, (held for three;) and 27,063 twelve-month men. It is a well known fact that large numbers of the three-month and twelve-month men, soon after their regiments disbanded, *re-enlisted*, in some instances by whole companies. Notably was this the case in Texas and Louisiana, with the three-months men, and in Tennessee, Kentucky, Missouri, Illinois, Indiana and Ohio among the latter. It would not be unreasonable to assume that one-third of these disbanded volunteers re-enlisted, (viz.: 13,221,) *whose names will be found duplicated on the rolls of the Pension Bureau*, and who of course can only draw one pension. Deduct this amount from the aggregate in the "General View"—79,913 less 13,221, and we have 66,692—(say 67,000 in round numbers) as a reasonable basis for estimating the probable number of survivors thirty years after the war, by per centage.

But the methods are not applicable to this case which are said to have been adopted by the "rule and figure men" of the Pension Bureau, who have heretofore insisted upon 35,000 or 40,000 veterans being still alive. They worked out this problem under Commissioner Baker, it is said, on the basis of mortality tables adopted by Life Assurance Companies in calculating the "Expectation of Life," or perhaps by the methods of interpolation used in the Census Bureau to ascertain the decrease, by natural mortality, of the population of a nation—including men, women and children. No intelligent person in the case under consideration will be imposed on by such extravagant estimates, unless he is seeking a paltry excuse for opposing our just claim on the ground of economizing the public expenditures. We know now, after an intelligent and earnest search through the agencies of our National Association in all parts of the country, during the past four years, that almost every man of us living can count on his fingers the number of survivors of his company;—that of the 1,033 companies who marched shoulder to shoulder across the torrid plains of Mexico, thirty years ago, we have only been able to find the whereabouts of 6,250 to-day, an average of half-a-dozen to each company. And why this great discrepancy between our estimate and that of the Department arithmeticians? It is because the latter do not take into their account the wide prevalence of chronic diseases contracted by our comrades in the unhealthy tropics, which sadly thinned their numbers while in Mexico and after their return; because they overlook the fact that many fell victims to their chivalric dispositions, developed in the war with Mexico, which carried them into the subsequent military affairs in Yucatan, Cuba, Lower California, Sonora and Nicaragua; and the fact that very many others lost their lives through exposure and hardship while exploring the vast territory, acquired by the Government through their valor, on the western slope of the continent. And, finally, these "lightning calculators" of the Pension Bureau, in their hurry overlook the disastrous results of the civil war of 1861, which awakened the martial spirit slumbering in the bosoms of those of our comrades then remaining, and carried vast numbers into the deadly conflict, on either side of the unfortunate controversy, where most of them met the usual fate of brave and patriotic spirits. The small "reserve corps" of the army of Mexico yet surviving, who constitute the National Association of to-day, have yet a sacred duty to perform—not only in behalf of their decrepit and impoverished comrades still living (who badly need, God knows, the small pittance asked of the Government)—but to the other nine-tenths of that army, who have joined "the innumerable caravan" marching beyond this mundane sphere, they owe their very best efforts to secure such Congressional recognition as will affix ineffaceably to the pages of history this great nation's acknowledgment of their heroism and public spirit, so that their children may revere and cherish honored

names, and gratefully strive to emulate the patriotic example of their fathers. No maudlin sentiment of mock-modesty will justify a neglect of this duty.

#### THE PASSAGE OF OUR BILL A MEASURE OF ECONOMY.

It will be conceded by every fair-minded man that the volunteer who responded to the call of the President to march into the torrid regions of the continent, and uphold our flag in the face of an enemy, has an equitable claim, at least, for any damage to his physical being resulting from such duty. There is scarcely a man of that army living to day but can trace some ailment from which he is still suffering back to that period of his career. The officer or soldier who, by reason of forced marches in damp or cold weather, or who from being in camp exposed to marshy exhalations, finds perhaps years after his discharge from service, his constitution broken down by rheumatism, or enfeebled by the constant recurrence of fevers, is surely as much entitled to a stipend at the hands of the Government as he who may have stopped a bullet of the enemy. In his own mind the soldier is convinced that the Government justly owes him a fair measure of compensation for such damage, but many know to their cost how useless it is to apply to the Pension Bureau for an "invalid pension." Because, while the law recognizes the soldier's claim, the *rules in regard to evidence* required to prove it, which have been prescribed from time to time by the Commissioners, render the law a "dead letter," as far as any benefit to the soldier is concerned. But the soldier is tempted by the law, knowing little or nothing of the rules, to file in due form his application. Then begins a series of questions by the Bureau, in regard to his health before enlistment, and he produces additional affidavits covering that point; then he is required to produce affidavits of two of his comrades who witnessed the particular circumstance upon which the alleged disability is based, and he travels over the face of the earth perhaps to find these witnesses. He is then required to prove by medical testimony *continuous disability*, resulting from this circumstance, ever since it occurred. By this time the poor soldier is out of pocket largely, and nearly out of patience, but being of "good pluck," warms up to the contest, determined to "fight it out on that line," knowing his cause is just. Death finally relieves him, perhaps, and his poor widow resumes the suit with like result. There are sixty thousand of these "old war claims" pending, growing out of all the old wars which the Government has been engaged in, that are a source of great expense to the Government, which cannot slam the door in the face of the applicant when he presents his case; nor reject it, in view of the law recognizing his claim; nor settle it by payment, under the rules of evidence adopted by the Department. The poor devil of a soldier, who deserves better of his country, is thus doomed, like Sisyphus of old, to perpetually roll a stone up hill which ever rolls back to the bottom just as he thinks he has reached his goal.

Now I have heard it intimated (and it would be a proper subject for official inquiry) that it costs the Government nearly as much for clerical and other expenses involved in the examination of these "old war claims," as would be required to pay the pensions of the surviving veterans of Mexico; while the passage of the bill now pending is the only practicable method of getting rid of these old claims by affording a means of settlement satisfactory to Government as well as claimants, exhausted by "the law's delay." I think this point worthy of investigation by those who oppose our claim on the score of economy. If it is ascertained by inquiry at the Pension Bureau that the passage of our bill will be a measure of economy in the settlement of "old war claims," the amount thus saved should be taken into account in the estimate of probable cost of passing the bill. Unless the bill now pending, which is in the nature of a gratuity, becomes a law, there is no telling how many invalid claims will be added to the present vast number of similar claims.

#### THE ENUMERATION OF REGIMENTS, &c., IN THE ASSOCIATION <sup>MEMBER</sup> BROTHER.

The Secretary has been in several cases called to account by find their regiments numbered on their badges otherwise than th

bers who ink they

should be. An explanation of the system of enumeration of regiments, &c., adopted for the Association Register will therefore be interesting.

When the distribution of medals commenced, it was at first thought advisable to designate upon the medal the regiment to which the recipient belonged by naming it after the colonel or commanding officer, as "Jones' Regt." "Smith's Battalion," &c. But an objection to this plan consisted in the fact that many of the regiments (especially in the regular service) were at no time during the war under command of the Colonels thereof, and many of them were, at different periods of the war, under two or three different subordinate commanders, which would render that system of designation very confused in its application. Besides, an objection would here and there arise to perpetuating another man's name on one's own medal, which was designed to be a family souvenir. It was therefore thought best to make them *impersonal*, except so far as the owner's name was concerned, engraved on the *reverse* of the shield. The names of the three eminent Department Commanders on the *obverse*—Scott, Taylor and Perry—had been adopted with the design by the Association, and the committee having charge of the distribution of the medals had no discretionary power so far as those names were concerned.

The *numbering* of the regiments was therefore decided to be the simplest and most satisfactory mode of designation. The regular service being designated as 1st to 3d Drag.; 1st to 4th Art.; 1st to 16th Inf.; Engineers, Q. M. Dept., Mounted Rifles, Voltigeurs, &c., &c. The medals of the volunteer service were engraved as 1st to 6th Ill. Inf.; 1st to 5th Mo. Cav., &c., &c., the regiments, battalions, &c., being credited to their respective States, and *numbered according to the date of muster into United States service*, as shown by the tabulated report of the Adjutant-General of the army, dated December 3d 1849, and which report *must be regarded as the basis of all history*. Gartner's *Military Dictionary*, and other publications, unauthentic in character, have somewhat confounded the general understanding in this respect by (for example) calling the 4th and 5th Ohio Inf. "1st" and "2d" for "during the war." Another instance of "confusion worse confounded" is the case of the two New York regiments. Col. Ward B. Burnett's regiment was the first of seven regiments of New York militia authorized by the Governor of that State to be raised for service in Mexico. Col. J. D. Stevenson, who commanded the 7th militia was the *first* mustered in by the United States, and detailed for service on the Pacific Coast, and it is so designated in the "Recapitulation of Loss in Battle of the Volunteer Forces," in the Campaign of 1847; while Col. Burnett's 1st militia is named as 2d regiment New York Volunteers, indisputably, as shown by the large number of killed and wounded charged to it, viz.: 183—(exceeded only by the South Carolina Regiment, 243; the 5th U. S. Inf., 219; the 8th, 205; the 2d Art., 185.) The tenacity with which our 2d New York comrades (Burnett's) adhere to the "No. 1," is perhaps to some extent accounted for by the fact that the New York Legislature voted a bounty of \$288 in 1851, to all the survivors of the 1st Regiment of New York Volunteers who served in Mexico, and the California boys, having been disbanded on the Pacific Coast, were "left out" in this dispensation of the Empire State's generosity. It would, however, be to the credit of the State, even at this late day, to amend the law so as to include the men who went under Stevenson to the far-off Pacific, many of whom would now find the bounty a godsend. The fact that they did not participate in the hard fighting which fell to the lot of the 2d regiment (Burnett's) was no fault of the brave fellows enrolled in the 1st [7th] who would doubtless have maintained with equal valor the honor of the State had their field of operations afforded an opportunity. Their good intentions were displayed in volunteering at the time they did for "service during the war," and the ignoring of their claims to bounty detracts from the credit which the great State of New York would otherwise be entitled to for this noble recognition of her daring sons.

**PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO THE PRESENT PLAN OF ORGANIZATION—HISTORIOPHERS OF REGIMENTS, &c.**

Our Association is as yet in an embryogenic state of development, but when the system of enrollment attains a more advanced stage of perfection—that is, when the names on file are more generally classified by regiments, &c—I will recommend that authority be given the Secretary to nominate an Assistant Secretary and Historiographer for each regiment, battalion, or group of companies, mustered into service from the several States; this officer to be supplied, from the records at Headquarters, with the names and present address of all the survivors pertaining to his charge, and whose duty it will be to communicate, at least once a year, direct with each individual, and collect such matters of interest relating to his particular company, and its participation in the war, personal incidents not contained in official reports, &c., &c., a brief of which is to be forwarded with the papers by the historiographer to headquarters, and form a part of the permanent archives of the National Association, together with a list of deaths of his membership during each year. A vast amount of interesting information may thus be rescued from oblivion, and will afford valuable data for the full history of the Mexican War which yet remains to be written for posterity and which can only be perpetuated through the instrumentality of the National Association. I think most of our membership will agree that in this way we will “promote social intercourse, good fellowship and all proper assistance,” which are declared in Art. III. of the Constitution to be among the objects of the National Association, for the living members, besides fulfilling a sacred duty to our deceased comrades-in-arms. The Secretary very frequently receives letters from members requesting information of the whereabouts of old messmates and comrades, and it affords him quite as much pleasure to impart it as they doubtless enjoy in receiving it; but some system of dividing up this correspondence is necessary, and the foregoing plan occurs to him as being practicable.

**THE PENSION BILL.**

It is perhaps unnecessary to say more in regard to the merits of the bill which passed the House of Representatives on the 4th of January, than that it is very nearly in accordance with the memorial of the Convention which assembled in this hall in January, 1874. Its provisions correspond with the law of 1871, granting pensions to the soldiers of 1812. Had we asked for legislation without a precedent, we would have run great risk of getting nothing. As it is, there is no reasonable excuse for opposition from any source. It has been the policy of those of us who were appointed to look after its welfare at headquarters to remind the representatives of the Association elsewhere to try and obtain the endorsement of the measure by the Legislatures of their several States, expressed through resolutions of instructions to those delegated to represent them in Congress. The great States of Illinois, Indiana, Missouri, Minnesota, Wisconsin, California, Oregon, Nevada, Texas, Louisiana, Alabama, North Carolina and Tennessee, have responded generously to the efforts of our comrades residing therein who interested themselves in the cause. While perhaps the honorable Senators from these States need no “instructions” to support a just bill, the moral effect achieved by these formal endorsements of their just deserts must be very gratifying to the men in whose behalf they were given, and go far to disprove the aphorism that “Republics are ungrateful.”

In concluding my report, I desire to express my sincere thanks to those thoughtful members who have voluntarily sustained me in my efforts to fulfill the duties assigned to me, and to assure them that a memorandum record of their generosity has been preserved in all cases.

Very respectfully,  
Your obedient servant,

**ALEXANDER M. KENADAY.**

Washington, D. C., February 22, 1877.

*Secretary.*

The report was accepted.

Col. Stephen Decatur addressed the Convention in a patriotic speech, referring especially to the unrequited services of the brave men who marched with Col. Doniphan from Santa Fe to Satiillo, through the unbroken wilds of New Mexico, encountering the enemy at Brazito and Sacramento, and capturing the city of Chihuahua with his small band of Missourians. In the course of his remarks he alluded to the beautiful city of the West near which the speaker resided, named in honor of our worthy President, General J. W. DENVER, who was the justly popular Governor of Kansas when the city was laid out. Although the people of Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Michigan, Missouri, North Carolina and California had named promising towns in his honor also, the speaker confidently predicted that DENVER, COLORADO, the Capital city of the Centennial State, would outstrip them all, as it was destined to be the Capital of the Nation in the not far distant future; and he hoped it would not be long before a National Convention of the survivors of Mexico would assemble in that beautiful and rapidly growing city, where his distinguished colleague in the Convention, Col. Albert Gallatin Boone, grand-son of the illustrious Indian tamer of Kentucky, and General Wm. Gilpin and himself and others, who have made that place their home, would extend a hearty Western welcome to their comrades of the Mexican war.

Col. Decatur's remarks were frequently interrupted with uproarious applause.

#### REPORT OF THE TREASURER.

Capt. Samuel V. Niles read his annual report, the items of which differed in no particular from the report published in last year's proceedings, showing as then a balance of cash on hand amounting to \$30.96.

A collection was taken up by the Committee of Arrangements to defray the expense of hall rent, netting \$32.35, which was paid over to the Treasurer.

#### ELECTION OF OFFICERS.

Mr. J. R. Gould, of Md., moved to suspend the rules and go into an election of officers for the ensuing year.

Judge Deason, of Mississippi, suggested that it would be better to postpone the election until the main business of the Convention was disposed of.

Gen. Crittenden and others discussed the proposition, during which it was ascertained that some of those present desired to return to their homes in the evening trains, and should be allowed to express their choice for officers before departing.

The President then announced the next business in order to be the selection of the officers of the Association for the ensuing year, from among the members thereof.

Col. George S. Fisher, of Georgia, moved that General James W. Denver, of Ohio, be declared as the choice of those present to preside over the Association for the ensuing year. Adopted by acclamation, and with much enthusiasm.

Mr. J. R. Gould, of Md., nominated Gen. John Love, of Indiana, for 1st Vice President. Elected by acclamation.

Mr. J. R. Gould, of Md., also nominated W. L. Tidball for Secretary.

Captain Van Rensselaer Morgan nominated the present incumbent, Mr. A. M. Kenaday.

Col. Joseph H. Ruddich, of Md., moved that A. M. Kenaday be elected by acclamation. Adopted, with one dissenting vote.

Capt. S. V. Niles was re-elected Treasurer by unanimous vote.

Gen. Edwin R. Biles was re-elected Marshal by acclamation.

H. A. McGlenen, of Mass.; and S. G. Swan, of Texas, were re-elected Assistant Secretaries, and Louis F. Beeler, of Md., W. M. H. Martin, of Miss., were added to the list.

Maj. Gen. S. P. Heintzelmen, Capt. S. V. Niles and M. D. Montis were re-elected as the Finance Committee.

The President stated that it had been the custom at previous meetings for the members present from the different States to nominate the Vice Presidents and Council of Administration in their respective localities, and unless objection was made that course of proceeding would be continued.

Several changes were then announced in the list, by residents of the respective States present, which will be found published in full on page 3, to which attention is invited.

Capt. John M. Lord, of Indiana, here called attention to the fact that this was the 22d of February, the birthday of America's greatest patriot, **GEORGE WASHINGTON**, and remarked that while it was a day that should be dear to every lover of his country, it was perhaps not specially the province of the survivors of Mexico to keep Washington's Birthday in remembrance for the whole people. Yet we have some claim on this day as the anniversary of one of the greatest battles fought in Mexico—the glorious victory at Buena Vista—where Taylor and Wool, with 5,000 volunteers, drove back 20,000 Mexican troops, who left their dead unburied on the field. He thought this one, if not the very greatest of the victories of the war, and as a recognition of the fact, he moved a committee be appointed to report a series of resolutions expressing the views of the Association on the advantageous results of the Battle of Buena Vista.

As might have been expected by the enthusiastic admirer of "Buena Vista," a lively fire opened from various quarters on the mover's proposition from equally enthusiastic participants at Resaca, Monterey, Vera Cruz and Cerro Gordo, Contreras, Cherubusco and Chapultepec; when Capt. Lord, finding a "hornet's nest" had been unconsciously stirred up, good-naturedly withdrew his proposition, stating that it was furthest from his thoughts or desire to reflect on or even discriminate between any of the great battles of the war.

[**NOTE.**—In this connection it is proper to state that the local committee of arrangements, had intended to include in the literary exercises of the day an essay on the "Life and Services of George Washington," prepared by L. A. GORTRIGHT, Esq., the talented chief of the New York Associated Press in this city, who kindly consented to deliver the same on the evening of the 22d, before the members of the Association and the public; but owing to some uncertainty about obtaining the use of the hall for the evening, the requisite publicity could not be given to the proposed entertainment, and it was dropped from the programme, which was already crowded with more business than could be performed in one day.]

#### TELEGRAPH GREETINGS FROM MONMOUTH, ILLINOIS.

President Denver, hereupon, read the following dispatch received from the First Illinois Association in session at Monmouth, Ill., to which a suitable reply was directed to be made by telegraph:

MONMOUTH, ILL., Feb. 22, 1877.

*To the President of the National Association, Washington, D. C.:*

First Illinois Association, now in session, send compliments, and hope for good results at your meeting. Press on the bill!

M. J. BARNES, *Pres't.*

The Convention then adjourned to meet on Wednesday 23d at 11 o'clock, A. M.

#### Second Day's Proceedings.

WILLARD HALL.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Feb. 23, 1877.

At 11 o'clock, a. m., pursuant to resolution of yesterday, the Association assembled in full force, to attend the ceremonial visit to the President of the United States. President Denver directed the marshal of the Association, Gen. Edwin R. Biles, of Philadelphia, to form the body in line of march and proceed at once to the White House. About 175 persons were present.

## RECEPTION BY PRESIDENT GRANT.

Arriving at the Executive Mansion they were ushered into the East Room by the polite attendants, where the body formed a hollow square and awaited the arrival of the Chief Magistrate, who soon appeared upon the scene, and recognizing President Denver, gave him a cordial welcome. Gen. Denver remarked: "Mr. President, a number of your old companions in arms of '46 are assembled in Washington from all parts of the Union, and they desire before leaving for their homes and before your official term expires, to bid you a last farewell." The President replied that he was always glad to meet them, and good-naturedly referred to Gen. Denver's slip of the tongue by hoping it would not prove a "last farewell."

The head of the column then moved slowly past the President, and Marshal Biles (assisted by the Secretary) introduced each member by name, many of whom were recognized by the President as old acquaintances, and exchanged extra greetings, though not prolonged sufficiently to interrupt the ceremony.

After all the members had been introduced, the head of the column having reached the point from which they started, a few minutes of friendly conversation ensued, during which a member remarked that as the pension bill for the Mexican veterans had its origin with the last inaugural ceremonies of President Grant it was to be hoped he would be called on to sign the approval of the law before his term expired. The President replied that appearances at the Capitol did not indicate the passage of any of the useful measures awaiting the action of Congress before the expiration of the term.

The members then returned to Willard Hall.

## IN CONVENTION.

The President called the meeting to order.

The reading of the minutes of yesterday's proceedings was dispensed with.

M. D. Montis, of Ohio, moved that the President, Secretary, and W. L. Tidball be appointed a committee to nominate a suitable person as Orator of the Day for the next annual meeting. Passed.

L. F. Beeler, of Md., moved that a committee of three be selected by the chair, to provide means for printing the proceedings of the Convention, and to have supervision of matter to be printed.

The President appointed as the committee L. F. Beeler, Edward Lander and C. D. Pennebaker.

Information being called for as to probable cost of printing, the Secretary read from his annual report the items embraced in the bill for the last edition, amounting to \$361.17.

W. J. Smith, of Tennessee, moved that the Secretary be added to the Committee on Printing. Carried.

## ORATOR OF THE DAY.

The committee appointed to select the Orator of the Day for the next annual meeting recommended the name of the REV. GREEN CLAY SMITH, of Frankfort, Ky., who served as 2d Lieut. of the 1st Kentucky Cavalry in Mexico, Colonel of the 4th Kentucky Cavalry in the late war, and promoted to Brigadier General. The honors thus achieved in the field of military glory have been supplemented by high distinction as an orator, a philanthropist, and a minister of the gospel. He was the chosen standard-bearer in the late presidential election of the Temperance people of the nation, and is now the pastor of a congregation in the most beautiful city of his native State, whose people are noted for loving and honoring their deserving sons.

The nomination was ratified with enthusiasm by the meeting.

Gen. Smith, who was present, and evidently taken by surprise, accepted the election, and said Providence permitting, he would attend the next meeting.

## BALTIMORE, MD., SELECTED AS PLACE OF NEXT MEETING.

On motion of Gen. John Love, of Indiana, Baltimore was selected as the place for holding the fifth annual meeting on February 22, 1878.

## REPORTING DECEASED MEMBERS.

Gen. George W. McCook, of Ohio, moved that the Secretary be requested to correspond with State and County associations with a view to ascertaining the names of members annually lost to each society by death. He thought the death roll for the past four years of our organization must amount to a considerable number, and should properly be deducted from any report going to show survivors only. Adopted. [NOTE BY THE SECRETARY.—It is hoped that no more formal notice than this publication of the above will be required by Secretaries of State and local associations, or by individual members of the National Association anywhere throughout the country, to secure compliance with the wishes expressed in the resolution. *If any member knows of the death of a comrade, whose name is on the National Register, at any time during the past four years, will take the trouble to write the name and address of such deceased comrade, and date of his death, upon a post card, (which will only cost him one cent,) and direct the same to the Secretary (Lock Box 37, Washington, D. C.) the information will be promptly noted. The name of the deceased member shall not be erased, nor dropped from the National Register, but segregated from the list of survivors, and a record made of the date of his death for future reference. It is hoped that no comrade who reads this will hesitate about sending the information in his possession, unless he *knows* the Secretary of his local society has *already complied*.]*

The President submitted to the Association the following communications:

## BRADY'S NATIONAL PORTRAIT GALLERY.

WASHINGTON CITY, February 23, 1877.

GEN. J. W. DENVER, *President, &c.*:

DEAR SIR:—I shall be pleased to add to my collection of "Distinguished Representative Men of America," the Veterans of the Mexican War. The Historic Collection, recently purchased by Congress, will be enriched by this addition of Mexican Heroes of the War. I would suggest two from each State.

Very respectfully,  
M. B. BRADY.

[The above invitation from Mr. Brady, was not received in time to secure full compliance with his request. It suggests an idea, however, that the National Association should have among its archives a

## PHOTOGRAPH ALBUM

containing the photographic likenesses of all its members, arranged by regiments and companies, and the Secretary respectfully *invites all members to send their photographs*, with the name, regiment and company written on the back thereof, to be so preserved. From this collection Mr. Brady can have the privilege of selecting a representative man from *each regiment, &c.*, serving in Mexico, enabling him to add the group to his grand collection of "Distinguished Representative Men of America" purchased by Congress.]

LETTER FROM C. F. SARGENT.—POSTPONEMENT OF THE EXCURSION TO MEXICO.

PHILADELPHIA, February 21, 1877.

A. M. KENADAY, *Esq., Secretary, &c.*:

DEAR SIR:—Owing to the death of a near relative I shall not be able to attend the meeting to-morrow. Major Rob. Klotz wrote me a few days ago that he would not be able to attend.

Our excursion to the city of Mexico [announced in last year's proceedings to take place at this time—SEC.] has been postponed until February, 1878, at the request of some of the Veterans, who by that time would be better prepared; and in the meantime, also, publicity would increase the number greatly. Had we started this month, but twenty would have gone; and we think twice that number will comprise the party next year.

Yours truly,

C. F. SARGENT, C. of A.

Letters were also submitted from Secretary Hartley, and C. of A. S. W. Smith, containing interesting information relative to the Illinois organizations; from Major Klotz, V. P. of Penn., regretting his inability to attend; from Col. D. S. Johnston, V. P. of Georgia; Gen. Ward B. Burnett, whose attendance was prevented by the illness of his wife; from the President of the New Jersey Association at Newark, and others, reading of which had to be dispensed with on account of a necessary

**RECESS TO ENABLE THE DELEGATES FROM THE SEVERAL STATES TO WAIT ON THE SENATE PENSION COMMITTEE.**

The President now directed the delegation selected by the meeting on yesterday (whose names are published on page 8) to proceed to the Capitol in such order and by such conveyances as were most convenient—two lines of street cars passing near the hall, every few minutes, would afford accommodation for the delegation as well as for all the members who desired to be present during the interview.

**The Bill to Pension Survivors of the Mexican War.**

While the delegation are on the way to the Capitol, a retrospective view of the action taken by the House of Representatives on our Pension bill will perhaps be interesting to members.

When the Proceedings of the Centennial meeting were published, last year, the bill prepared by the House Committee was on the House Calendar with a unanimous report of the House Committee in its favor. It was framed in accordance with the provisions of the bill of 1871, granting pensions to the veterans of 1812; that is, allowing eight dollars a month to all honorably discharged survivors of the war who had served sixty days, and to the widows of those who were married prior to the close of the war. The House Committee, however, added to the beneficiaries of the bill the survivors of the "Florida" and "Black Hawk" wars who had served *thirty* days. This provision, it was thought, would not materially add to the number of pensioners, and it was contended by some of our advocates that it would strengthen the measure before the House. It will be seen, however, further along in this narrative, that it afforded our indefatigable adversaries in the Executive Departments—those "fiery dragons" whose mission it is to guard the treasury against all pension-seekers especially—an opportunity to array a vast number of imaginary beneficiaries, when they were called upon by the legislative branch to exercise their wonderful attainments in the algorism of numbers of old soldiers disbanded.

On the 4th of January, Mr. G. W. Hewitt, of Alabama, moved in the House of Representatives to take up H. R. No. 2283, granting pensions to certain soldiers and sailors of the Mexican, Florida and Black Hawk wars.

After some efforts on the part of Messrs. Holman and Singleton to stave off action on our measure until after the Diplomatic Appropriation bill was disposed of, the House sustained Mr. Hewitt's motion.

Mr. Hewitt then proceeded to address the House in a well prepared speech, in which he explained the provisions of the bill, and briefly reviewed the history of our legislation upon the subject of gratuitous pensions to the soldiers of different wars from the beginning of the Government. He demonstrated the wisdom

and justice of the policy of paying our soldiers for *having fought* voluntarily, rather than inducing them to "fight for pay." He said the soldiers of '46 and '47 had a right to expect that the Government would in their old age extend to them the same legislative recognition bestowed on the soldiers of the revolution and those of 1812-15, and pointedly dwelt on the material advantages derived by the Government from the acquisition, as a result of the war, of 937,875 square miles of territory, an area greater than all the States of the Union at the time of its acquisition, together with all its vast and incalculable wealth. He said the Government by past legislation had impliedly contracted with these veterans, when it called upon them to go and fight against an enemy on a foreign soil; that in their declining years, when they could no longer compete with younger men in the fields of labor, it would give them the pension now proposed by this bill: and to refuse would be to dishonor the Government and to do these old soldiers a great wrong, if not a crime. It would be a refusal to perform a very high moral obligation. Pass this bill, said Mr. H., pensioning alike the brave men of the North and of the South, who fought shoulder to shoulder and hand in hand under Taylor and Scott, and we will have done more in time of peace to prepare for war, than we could do by appropriating millions upon millions for fortifications; more than building an indefinite number of iron monitors, and more than arming and equipping a regular army of one hundred thousand men.

He said the Pension Committee, after a careful examination of the subject, were satisfied that a million and a half of dollars per annum will be more than sufficient to meet all the requirements of the bill; and after a careful review of the official reports, by the committee, having in view the extraordinary causes, prevailing since the service was rendered, to reduce the number of survivors, they submitted the following estimates as approximating the total number covered by the bill, viz :

Surviving Volunteers of 1846.....	7,000
" Widows.....	1,000
" Regulars of 1846.....	2,700
" Widows.....	100
" Soldiers and Widows Black Hawk War.....	200
" " " Florida War.....	2,000
 Total.....	 13,000

Aggregating at \$96 per annum, \$1,248,000, which sum would be constantly decreasing. The survivors of the Mexican war will average about 55 years, with an expectation of life of about 14 years. The survivors of the Black Hawk war of 1832, and of the Florida war of 1836, are of course proportionately older.

Mr. Hewitt closed with an eloquent appeal to members to pass the bill, reminding them that a number of the State Legislatures had requested their representatives to support the measure.

The bill passed without opposition.

The next day it was reported to the Senate and referred to the Pension Committee of that body. At the next meeting of the Pension Committee it was assigned to Senator Morgan C. Hamilton, of Texas, for examination and report.

Every effort was made by the officers of the Association to induce Senator Hamilton to give the subject his earliest consideration. All who were supposed to have any influence with him were earnestly besought to try their persuasive powers in getting him to report it back to the committee for their action. The session was drawing to a close, and the officers of the Association at headquarters naturally felt much anxiety about the fate of the bill. The President and Secretary of the Association made a formal visit to Senator Hamilton's residence, taking with them the roll of Texan survivors, about 800 names of the Senator's own constituents, in the hope that these names would awaken some desire in the mind of Mr. H. to do one good turn for the people of the State he represented, before his official career terminated on the 4th of March ensuing. He refused, however, to admit to his august presence the President and Secretary aforesaid, who subsequently were informed that the exhibition of the Texas

list would probably have only aroused a more bitter animosity to the bill in the mind of the irascible functionary, as nearly every act of his Senatorial term, in the opinion of Texans residing here, was characterized by antipathy to the people he was supposed to represent. Under these circumstances there was nothing left for the friends of the bill but to "watch and pray."

About the middle of February, word was brought to the Secretary by one of our members that Senator Hamilton had "packed up his carpet bag and skedaddled"—left the "gay and festive scenes" of the Capitol never to return again! A visit to the Pension Committee room proved that he had indeed turned in his papers, with reports on every bill assigned to him save and except the bill in which all the Mexican veterans of the country were so much interested. That precious document with the accompanying papers he took with him, as a sweet morsel, perhaps, to console him in his private life. The attention of the gentlemanly Secretary of the Committee, Alexander R. Banks, Esq., was promptly called to this omission on the part of the departed Senator, and Mr. B promised to supply the missing papers by duplicates and bring them to the attention of the chairman at the regular meeting of the Committee on the following day.

At the next meeting of the Committee it was ascertained that the bill continued on the *tapis*, notwithstanding the "little game" of the ex-Senator from Texas; Senator Ingalls, of Kansas, Chairman of the Committee, having himself assumed the usual formal investigation of the subject. The officers of the Association refrained from any further solicitation, as the meeting of the National Association would take place the following week, when a delegation fresh from the membership would be in the city to urge their claims.

This brief review of the situation brings us down to the—

#### Interview of the Delegates with the Senate Committee.

The delegation having arrived at the Capitol found their way to the spacious room of the Pension Committee, which probably was never so densely packed before by an audience of interested spectators. Although the Senate and House were in session at the time, a quorum of the Committee were present. Senator J. J. Ingalls presiding. A number of Senators and members mingled with the delegation, among others, Senators Burnside, Maxey and Logan.

The chairman called on President Denver to state his case, reminding him that the time of the Committee was necessarily limited, the Senate being in session.

Gen. Denver briefly adverted to the fact that the survivors of the Mexican war had been united for several years past in an appeal to Congress for recognition of their services, and that action had been delayed, heretofore, by extravagant statements emanating from official sources as to the probable number of survivors. To counteract these statements every effort had been made by the officers here and the organizations in the several States to ascertain the actual number now living, and while of course it would not become him to assert that the whereabouts of every soldier of the Mexican war is known to the officers of the Association, there was nevertheless sufficient information in this respect upon which to base a reasonable approximation of the whole number, which would be submitted to the Honorable Committee for such consideration as they might think it entitled to.

He then introduced Secretary A. M. Kenaday, who informed the Committee that 6,250 names of survivors had been ascertained up to that time through the various methods adopted by the officers of the Association to arrive at the facts. Of this number he had thus far tabulated 4,629 of the whole number enrolled. A synopsis of this table will show he said an average of about 41 survivors to 25 of the Regular regiments enumerated; 45 survivors to the 4 Indiana regiments of volunteers; 43 average to 5 Kentucky regiments, and 46 to 5 Ohio regiments. He thought he could safely assume that the number already enrolled would cover fully one-half of the whole number living—say, 9,258 in all—which would be liberal, in view of the zealous efforts made to find the residence of every person who claimed to have rendered service in the war with Mexico. This basis would show 82 survivors in each of the 25 regular regiments; 90 to the Indiana regiments; 86 to the Kentucky, and 92 to each of the Ohio regiments. The 40 regi-

ments here taken as a basis of calculation comprise 400 companies with 3,400 survivors, or an average of  $8\frac{1}{2}$  men to each company. There were 1,083 companies employed in the war, averaging (including rank and file)  $97\frac{1}{2}$  men each. Multiplying the whole number of companies by the average of survivors here obtained, (namely  $8\frac{1}{2}$ ), we have a total of 8,780 survivors. This is considerably below 10 per cent. of the whole number employed during the war, which was the lowest estimate he had heretofore contended for.

Gen. Crittenden, Gen. McCook, and others of the delegates from abroad testified to the widespread interest manifested in all the meetings of veterans throughout the country in regard to this matter, and expressed the hope that the committee would find it consistant with their duties to grant the prayer of the petitioners, which had already met the approval of many of the State Legislatures.

Senator Ingalls remarked that the subject was one of vast importance, and in his position of Chairman of the Committee he was expected to stand between the petitioners and the Government. The case had not yet been considered in all its bearings by the Committee, and he was not prepared to say what conclusion they would reach. But he had received a communication from the Pension Office in reply to a letter of inquiry in regard to the probable number of beneficiaries, which he felt bound to lay before the Committee in connection with the bill which had passed the other House.

Senator Ingalls then drew from his coat pocket a paper which he proceeded to read to the delegation, showing in detail all the soldiers employed in every military affair and Indian disturbance, including the Aroostook affair in Maine and the New York frontier and Canada row in 1838, as follows :

#### THE ESTIMATE OF THE PENSION OFFICE.

Extract from the statement February 21, 1877, furnished by Pension Office to Senator Ingalls.

*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Soldiers in Seminole war from Nov. 20, 1837, to Oct. 31, 1818, (southwest, etc.)							5,911
" Black Hawk      "      Apr. 11, 1831, to Sept. 31, 1832							5,031
" Florida      "      Dec. 28, 1835, to Aug. 4, 1842							41,122
" Creek Indians disturbances from May 5, 1836, to Sept. 30, 1837							13,413
" Southwest      "      Arks. No fighting or actual war							2,802
" Cherokee Country, 1836, ended in 1837							3,926
" N. Y. frontier and Canada, 1838, ended in 1839							1,128
" Aroostook Maine disturbance, 1838							2 Regiments
" Mexican war from April 24, 1846, to July 4, 1848							
Regular army 27,194, service averaging 15 to 26 months }							
Volunteer army 73,266, service averaging 10 months }      100,460							
<b>Total of soldiers</b>							<b>173,799</b>

There were pensioned for disability in above wars, from commencement of Florida war, to the commencement of the rebellion in 1861

Add for those who were on the rolls December 31, 1835

**Soldiers in above wars pensioned for disability**

**Widows of soldiers pensioned in Florida war not over 500**  
" " " Mexican (estimated) 2,600 }      3,100

" An elaborate table was prepared in 1858-9-(47 years after commencement of war of 1812) for the basis of a report of the probable number of survivors in that war, at that date. Ratio adopted was  $\frac{3}{8}$ . Subsequently the office was informed that an actual count was made of two or three companies, which showed the survivors to be 41 to 44 in 100.

" The estimate furnished to Congress just prior to the passage of the act of February 14, 1871, granting pensions to survivors and widows of war 1812 was 40,100. The actual number of applications received has been a little over 42,000.

" From the commencement of the Florida war is 31 years. Taking the estimate made for the survivors of the war of 1812 as the basis for obtaining the number in the foregoing wars (173,799 soldiers) it is not unreasonable to assume that one half survive at this date.

" In the Black Hawk, Florida and Mexican wars, there were 146,613 soldiers rendering service, the above estimate gives as surviving over 73,000. Even adopting the ratio of  $\frac{3}{8}$  (as in the war of 1812) which is, without doubt, much too low, the survivors would be 54,980.

" It should be stated that a former estimate of this office was based on the number of volunteers in the Mexican war, the number of soldiers in the regular army, having, by some oversight, been omitted."

The reading of this budget of errors, which had the sanction of one of the Government Departments for its reliability, and which indicated an expenditure of five and a quarter millions of dollars a year to cover the bill before the Committee, operated like a volley of grape and canister from a masked battery. The session of the Committee had drawn to a close and the delegation had no opportunity at the time to examine the figures contained in the statement and expose their fallacy. The delegation very naturally felt some indignation that the bill for which our Association had been contending for several years should be thus loaded down and the services of the soldiers of Mexico placed on a level with the aggregations of militia called out from time to time to quell petty frontier disturbances ever since the war of 1812; men who never expected pensions and never claimed pensions for their services. And clearly it was not a sentiment of justice to the militia aforesaid which animated these parties to "ring them in" on the Mexican war bill, but rather appeared to be a covert attempt to break down our cause by swelling the number of beneficiaries, and thus alarming the "watch-dogs of the Treasury."

After the reading of this precious document the Senators on the Committee withdrew to the Senate Chamber (that body being still in session) and Chairman Ingalls promised to give the matter further consideration at an early day. The delegation returned to Willard Hall in a decidedly bad humor with the result of the interview.

#### Examination of the Pension Office Estimate.

Before resuming the regular narration of the Association proceedings, and while the figures are fresh in the mind of the reader, let us take up and examine this official estimate in the light of common sense and of historical facts, susceptible of proof, and show our friends and the public how easily this blown bladder of misstatements may be punctured. It is evidently the same document, (although we never had opportunity to examine it except on newspaper reports) which was worked up under Mr. Commissioner Baker, with a view to "nip in the bud" the ardent enthusiasm of our comrades growing out of the grand success of our first National Convention in January, 1874. It is very probable that the present Commissioner (Hon. J. A. Beutley) sent the paper up to the Capitol without a critical examination of its contents; and it is not at all likely that Senator Ingalls, within the brief time the paper was in his possession, attempted to work out the problem—preferring rather to accept the figures as prepared by the Department arithmeticians.

The report, it will be seen, says the ratio adopted for estimating the survivors of 1812 was  $\frac{3}{8}$ . (That is 3 survivors out of every 8 soldiers who served, or about 37  $\frac{1}{2}$  per cent. of the whole number.)

"Subsequently," says the report, "the office was informed that an actual count was made of two or three companies, which showed the survivors to be 41 to 44 in 100."

(Those companies must have been composed of remarkably healthy and very young men at the date of enlistment to hold out in that proportion over 57 years after they rendered their military services.)

He further states that 40,100 was the result of this estimate, while the actual number of *applications* subsequently received (a little over 42,000) is paraded in juxtaposition with the first figures to show that the estimate was approximately correct.

The clerk neglects by design or accident to exhibit the number of troops employed in the war of 1812, in connection with his other figures, but by reference to the Adjutant General's report of March 4, 1850, "Showing the effective military forces engaged in different wars," (easily accessible to the Committee) it will be seen that the aggregate of officers and soldiers in the war of 1812 was 471,622. Now one-eighth of that number would be 58,952, and three-eighths would be 176,558 survivors on his  $\frac{3}{8}$  basis of calculation, in place of 40,100 as stated in the estimate.

A very simple process will show, however, (namely, dividing 471,622 by 40,100) that the basis of the estimate was about 11  $\frac{1}{4}$  per cent. of the whole number, mak-

ing the ratio of 11 $\frac{1}{2}$  to 100, nearly equal to the ratio of 1 to 8—instead of .3 to 5.

Let us examine his "actual count" of 44-in-100 theory. The 471,622 officers and men divided into companies of 100, gives us 4,716 companies. Multiplying these by 44 will give us 207,504 survivors! How could it be possible for so wide a discrepancy to exist between this so-called "actual count" and the *actual facts* as shown by the Pension Commissioner in his Annual Report for 1876? For while this astute arithmetician refers to the 42,000 *applications* under the law of 1871, he unfairly conceals the fact contained in the Annual Report for 1876, that only 28,548 were found to be pensioners under that law, which reduces the actual ratio to nearer 1 in 16. With these facts staring us in the face, we can be excused from believing the statement that "an actual count was made of 2 or 3 companies which showed the survivors to be 41 to 44 in 100!"

The report goes on to say:

"From the commencement of the Florida war is 31 years."—

[Slightly in error again, Mr. Calculator—the Florida war began in 1835, and from that date to 1877 would be 42 years.

"And taking the estimate made for the survivors of the war 1812 as the basis for obtaining the number in the foregoing wars (173,799 soldiers) it is not unreasonable to assume that one-half survive at this date!"

This is the very sublimity of nonsense! It would be far more "reasonable" to suppose that one-half of them died before their terms of service expired, 35 or 40 years ago.

The report says:

"In the Black Hawk, Florida and Mexican wars, there were 146,613 (11,160 more than the records of the War Department show) soldiers rendering service, the above estimate giving as surviving over 78,000. Even adopting the ratio of  $\frac{3}{8}$  (as in the war of 1812,) which is without doubt much too low, the survivors would be 54,980."

Now let us take the figures of the Florida and Black Hawk wars as published in the Adjutant General's report before referred to, as follows:

Black Hawk war of 1832.....	5,031
Florida war of 1835-42.....	29,953
Mexican war of 1846.....	100,460
	135 444

One survivor in eight (which is really, as has been shown, double the ratio adopted in the 1812 estimate) will give 16,930 as the sum total of those wars, without making a single deduction for casualties, desertions, duplicate enlistments, counting the regular establishment in both the latter campaigns, or any of the distinctive causes tending to decimate the last named troops, as already shown in the annual report of the Secretary, published elsewhere in this pamphlet.

On the other hand it is well known that the great body of the soldiers of 1812-14 were militia who never left their homes along the northern frontier, from Michigan to Maine, but turned out at stated periods for a drill or dress parade, and held themselves in readiness for service when their neighborhood should be invaded. Two-thirds of them, it is safe to say, never slept in a tent nor made a forced march during the campaign, and nearly all of those who did any service in the South were in their graves many years before their pension was allowed by act of Congress.

The fact appears to be, that the young man detailed to prepare the report for the Pension Bureau started out without a "heading." If the number of troops in the war of 1812 had been before him, he would probably never have taken it for a basis. Once taken, however, it led him astray in all his subsequent calculations, as it appears.

#### Further Proceedings in Convention.

The members of the Delegation having returned to Willard Hall, Vice President Love, of Indiana, in the chair,

Gen. George W. McCook, for the Delegation, reported the result of the interview with the Senate Committee substantially as it has been narrated.

Gen. T. T. Crittenden, of Washington, D. C., addressed the meeting, depicting in eloquent terms the results of the Mexican war, and contrasting the attitude of Senators with the generous action of members of the other House, who reflected the sentiments of the people of the country.

Col. Theodore Gregg, who was color sergeant of the 4th Infantry in Mexico, and was a Colonel's commission in the 45th Pennsylvania during the late war, made a stirring speech, overflowing with enthusiasm, which was frequently applauded, and restored a feeling of good humor.

#### PRINTING PROCEEDINGS &C.

Mr. Lewis F. Beeler, of Baltimore, Md., of the committee selected to provide means for printing the proceedings of the Convention, etc., made a report recommending that the Secretary be authorized to have printed six thousand copies of the proceedings, and that no matter, not of an official character, be inserted in the proceedings, and that the States be assessed as follows: New York, Pennsylvania, Maryland, District of Columbia and Indiana, 200 copies, and all other States 100 copies, and as many additional copies as they may desire, price to be 10 cents per copy by the 100. No copies to be forwarded only on orders from the respective State Associations--the money in all cases to accompany the application for the proceedings.

On motion of W. L. Tidball the entire matter of preparing the report and receiving the funds was referred to the Finance Committee.

The report as amended was adopted.

#### ANOTHER COMMITTEE TO CONFER WITH THE SENATE COMMITTEE OF PENSIONS.

J. M. H. Martin, of Mississippi, submitted a motion, which was adopted, that a committee of seven be appointed to wait on the Senate Pension Committee and use all efforts in their power to have the pension bill placed in proper shape and called up at this session, and to report to an adjourned meeting of the Association to be held to-morrow, at 3 o'clock p. m., at General Denver's office.

The Chair, (Gen. John Love,) appointed as said Committee the following gentlemen: J. M. H. Martin, of Miss.; Gen. George W. McCook, of Ohio; Capt. John M. Lord, of Indiana; Gen. Green Clay Smith, of Ky.; Gen. Thomas T. Crittenden, of D. C.; Gen. Edwin R. Biles, of Penn., and Judge J. W. Deason, of Miss.

The President and Vice President were subsequently added to the Committee.

The Convention then adjourned to meet on Saturday, 24th February, at 3 o'clock p. m., at President Denver's rooms.

#### THIRD DAY'S PROCEEDINGS.

The Association met pursuant to adjournment, General J. W. Denver in the chair.

Gen. John Love, on behalf of the Committee appointed yesterday afternoon, reported that they had visited the Capitol at 10.30 this morning, confident of another hearing by the Committee of Pensions, but the Oregon question being up for consideration in the Senate, it was impossible to get the members of the Committee together. In conversation, Senator McDonald had expressed a hope that a meeting would be held early in the coming week, and Senator Burnside and Senator Cockrell had spoken encouragingly of our prospects.

Judge Deason, of Miss., said he called on Senator Bruce, of that State, who promised to press action on the bill as soon as the Committee came together, and expressed the opinion that there was not an opponent of the measure on the Committee.

Col. Gregg had seen Gen. Logan, who promised to do all in his power to get the bill through if it came before the Senate.

Col. Ruddach stated that in company with Secretary Kenaday he had obtained a promise from the Clerk of the Committee, A. R. Blaine, Esq., to notify the President promptly of the time of meeting of the Committee.

Secretary Kenaday had an interview with Senator Ingalls, Chairman of the

Committee, who expressed regret at seeing in the published reports of yesterday's meeting that his position was misunderstood by some of the members of the Association. He doubted whether any member of the Committee was more friendly to the old soldiers of Mexico, among whom he counted many warm personal friends, than himself. As an individual Senator he fully appreciated the merits of their case, and its political significance in every point of view; but as Chairman of the Committee he was obliged to lay before its members the views expressed by the proper Department of the Government. It was difficult on ordinary occasions to obtain a "special" meeting of a committee, because the members also belonged to other committees that met on stated days; but under the extraordinary rules governing the meetings of the Senate at that time, it was impossible to say at what time the members of the committee could be brought together.

The Secretary promised Senator Ingalls to correct any misapprehensions in regard to his position, in the published report of the proceedings of the Association; and expressed the hope that he would enjoy Senatorial life long enough to know that erroneous impressions do not work lasting injury to a public servant.

President Denver was, on motion, authorized to fill vacancies which may occur on the committee appointed to confer with Senators in behalf of the bill, and the term of service of said committee was made continuous, until the work is accomplished for which they are appointed.

#### RECONSIDERATION OF THE REPORT ON PRINTING, &C.

Judge Deason, of Miss., moved to reconsider the vote by which the report in regard to providing ways and means for printing the proceedings was adopted yesterday. He stated that a strict construction of the resolution, as published in the morning papers, would prohibit the Secretary from furnishing copies to a very large body of members unknown to the State Associations, and otherwise restrict the distribution of matters of general interest to all survivors of the Mexican war.

The motion to reconsider was agreed to.

Judge Deason then moved to amend that portion of the report wherein it provides that "No copies to be forwarded only on the orders from the respective State Associations,"—so as to allow any person to buy a copy, and authorizing the Secretary to send the same to the party applying.

Gen. Love moved as an amendment that the Finance Committee of the Association be empowered as usual to make such arrangements with the Secretary as they may deem just and proper, which was adopted.

#### CLOSING PROCEEDINGS.

Judge Deason addressed the members, assuring them that his visit to Washington on this occasion was one of the pleasantest events of his life, meeting comrades from whom he had been separated many years, and reviving recollections of the romantic days of youth and patriotic ardor. He hoped these reunions would be made perpetual while there remained a corporal's guard of the veterans to enjoy them, and if he lived he certainly would attend the Baltimore meeting.

Col. Ruddach, of Baltimore, assured him that there would be a hearty welcome extended to the veterans by the Monumental City which prides itself on hospitality, and a hearty appreciation of the men who have served the Republic.

Parting remarks were also made by Gen. James Tilton, Col. Alexander Montgomery, Capt. J. M. Lord, Capt. W. B. Parisen, Col. C. N. Allen, Col. Peyton, of Miss., Mr. Reed, of Va., Mr. Parvin, of N. J., Gen. Love, and others.

President Denver then addressed the Convention, congratulating them on the harmony which had prevailed, and expressing the hope to meet them all well and hearty in Baltimore next year.

He said the vast body of the membership were in reduced circumstances, and the small pittance asked for them from the Government would afford some measure of relief to their physical wants, but behind this fact was the feeling shared by all who served in Mexico, that the services to the country rendered by those men had been shamefully neglected by the representatives of the people, and this recognition was demanded by every principle of justice and honor.

The Convention then adjourned.

Forwarded by A. M. KENADAY, Sec'y., &c., Lock Box 37, Washington, D. C.

# FIFTH ANNUAL REUNION

OF THE

## National Association

OF

# Veterans of the Mexican War,

HELD IN

BALTIMORE, MD., FEBRUARY 22, 1878,

CONTAINING

Minutes of Proceedings; List of Officers; Names of Members in attendance arranged according to their records on file; Report of the First Secretary, including the Petition Presented to the 45th Congress; Interesting Synopsis of the Debate in the House on the proposed Pension Bill, &c.

PREPARED AND PUBLISHED BY

**ALEXANDER M. KENADAY,**  
*First Secretary.*

WASHINGTON:

THOS. J. BRASHEARS, PRINTER.

1878.

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## NOTICE TO MEMBERS.

The Secretary returns sincere thanks to those comrades who generously responded to his appeal for donations in currency or postal stamps, to aid him in publishing and distributing the proceedings. They have all been duly credited with the amounts sent. He respectfully reminds the great majority of those who receive the book, and who did not find it convenient to sooner respond, that the sum thus far received falls considerable short of actual expenses. They should bear in mind that the siege has been a long one, and "the grass is getting short and the water very low." The delay in getting out the book has been owing to financial difficulties. If all who receive the book, however, will remit to the Secretary a small donation in postal stamps or currency, (excepting, of course, those who have already responded,) it will aid the cause and show that the sender is still alive.

A. M. K.

“FIFTH ANNUAL REUNION”

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# CONSTITUTION.

ARTICLE I. This Association shall be known by the name and style of "The National Association of Veterans of the Mexican War," and shall be composed of soldiers, sailors, and marines who served in that war, now in the service of the United States, or who have been honorably discharged.

ART. II. The Association shall hereafter meet once a year, on the 22d day of February, in the City of Washington, District of Columbia, or at such other time, and in such other place as shall be selected by the Association.

ART. III. The objects of the Association shall be to organize the scattered veterans of the Mexican War into one body, upon the broad principles of equality, fraternity and charity, for the promotion of social intercourse, good-fellowship and all proper assistance.

ART. IV. The officers of the Association shall be a president, one vice-president from each State, Territory, and the District of Columbia, the army and the navy; one treasurer, five secretaries, a council of administration of one from each State, Territory, and the District of Columbia, the army and the navy, and such other officers as may be provided for in the by-laws.

ART. V. The officers of the Association shall be chosen by a vote of a majority of the members present at the annual meeting thereof, and shall continue in office until the next annual meeting, and until their successors shall be elected.

ART. VI. All members in good standing in State and other local organizations shall be entitled to membership in this Association, and shall become members upon written application by a vote of the majority of the members present at any regular meeting of the Association.

ART. VII. No alteration or amendment shall be made to the Constitution, unless the same shall have been proposed in writing by three members at an annual meeting, and sustained by a vote of two-thirds of the members present, after due notice to the Association of the proposed alteration or amendment.

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## BY-LAWS.

1. The duties of the officers of this Association shall be such as usually devolve upon officers of similar associations.
2. The business of this Association shall be conducted in accordance with the usages of legislative bodies in this country.
3. These By-Laws may be altered or amended at any annual meeting of the Association by a vote of two-thirds of the members present at such meeting.

---

## ORDER OF BUSINESS.

1. At the appointed time the President shall take the chair and call the meeting to order.
2. Roll call of officers.
3. Appointment of Committee on Credentials and their Report.
4. Minutes of the preceding meeting read and disposed of.
5. Motions for and Appointment of Committees.
6. Report of Standing Committees
7. Unfinished Business.
8. Final Reports of Committees and action thereon.
9. Oration.
10. New Business.
11. Election of officers for the ensuing year.
12. Anything for the good of the Association.
13. Adjournment.

# Officers of the National Association,

---

President, JAMES W. DENVER, Washington, D. C.

1st Vice President, JOHN LOVE, Indianapolis, Ind.

First Secretary, ALEX M. KENADAY, *Lock Box 37, Washington, D. C.*

Treasurer: S. V. NILES, Washington, D. C.; Marshal: E. R. BILES, Phila., Pa.

Asst. Secretaries: H. A. MCGLENNEN, S. G. SWAN, L. F. BEELER, J. M. H. MARTIN.

Financial Committee: Bvt. Maj. Gen. S. P. HEINTZELMAN, S. V. NILES, and M. D. MONTIS, Washington, D. C.

## VICE PRESIDENTS AND COUNCIL OF ADMINISTRATION.

U. S. ARMY.—Wm. F. Barry, Bvt. Maj. Gen., Baltimore; Gen. Benj. Alvord, Paymaster Gen., Washington, D. C.

U. S. NAVY.—Fabins Stanley, Rear Admiral, Washington, D. C.; Surg. Gen. Wm. Maxwell Wood, Owings Mills, Md.

ALABAMA.—John R. Coffey, Fackler; George V. Hebb, Wilsonville.

ARKANSAS.—J. F. Fagan, Little Rock; Edw. J. Brooks, Muskogee, Ind. Ter.

CALIFORNIA.—Richard P. Hammond, San Francisco; S. O. Houghton, San Jose.

COLORADO.—Wm. Gilpin, S. M. Logan, Denver.

CONNECTICUT.—Levi Woodhouse, Hartford; Justin Hedges, Riverside.

DIST. COLUMBIA.—Albert Pike, T. T. Crittenden, Washington.

GEORGIA.—George S. Fisher, Augusta; David S. Johnston, Madison.

ILLINOIS.—Ferris Foreman, Vandalia; P. T. Turnley, Chicago.

INDIANA.—Henry S. Lane, Mahlon D. Manson, Crawfordsville.

IOWA.—Josiah Given, Des Moines; Robert F. Bower, Keokuk.

KANSAS.—E. N. O. Clough, Leavenworth; J. R. McClure, Junction City.

KENTUCKY.—W. T. Ward, Louisville; T. W. Campbell, Bowling Green.

LOUISIANA.—G. Mason Graham, Alexandria; P. O. Hebert, New Orleans.

MARYLAND.—Joseph H. Ruddach, D. G. Murray, Baltimore.

MASSACHUSETTS.—Isaac H. Wright, Boston; Stephen Hoyt, Salem.

MICHIGAN.—Alpheus S. Williams, Detroit; Daniel McConnell, Grand Rapids.

MINNESOTA.—Edmund Rice, St. Paul; Francis Peteler, Minneapolis.

MISSISSIPPI.—J. B. Deason, Brookhaven; E. A. Peyton, Jackson.

MISSOURI.—T. J. Bartholow, St. Louis; Jonas J. Clark, Chillicothe.

NEVADA.—W. W. McCoy, Eureka; W. Frank Stewart, Virginia City.

NEW HAMPSHIRE.—T. P. Pierce, Thomas P. Whipple, Nashua.

NEW JERSEY.—Chas. P. Bowers, James E. Nuttman, Newark.

NEW YORK.—W. B. Burnett, Wm. Colligan, New York.

NORTH CAROLINA.—O. R. Smith, Raleigh; Wm. M. Tanner, Sassafras Fork.

OHIO.—George W. Morgan, Mount Vernon; C. N. Allen, Steubenville.

OREGON.—E. Hamilton, John W. Egan, Portland.

PENNSYLVANIA.—Robt. Klotz, Manch Chunk; Wm. Brindle, Phila.

RHODE ISLAND.—A. E. Burnside, The Capitol; Nelson Viell, Providence.

SOUTH CAROLINA.—R. G. M. Dunovant, Edgefield; W. B. Stanley, Columbia.

TENNESSEE.—Wm. J. Smith, Memphis; Leon Truesdell, Nashville.

TEXAS.—S. B. Maxey, The Capitol; A. J. Dorn, Austin.

VIRGINIA.—Philip D. Sutton, Warmington; J. F. Milligan, Norfolk.

WASHINGTON TER.—James Tilton, Seattle; Grauville O. Haller, Coupeville.

WEST VIRGINIA.—G. A. Porterfield, Charlestown; M. L. Dorn, Martinsburg.

WISCONSIN.—C. R. Johnson, Black River Falls; Louis Netter, Green Bay.

# List of Registered Members in Attendance at

## FIFTH ANNUAL REUNION.

### CLASSIFIED BY REGIMENTS.

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#### REGULARS—BY REGIMENTS.

TOPOGRAPHICAL ENGINEERS.—Bvt. Maj. Wm. H. Emory.

DRAGOONS—1st Regt.—Bvt. Capt. John Love. 3d. Regt.—A. M. Kenaday, Sergt.; Henry Ray Myers, MTD. RIFLEMEN—John T. Lynch.

VOLTIGERS.—Lieut. W. J. Martin, Isaac N. Benjamin, Samuel Clark, Robert Harrington, J. H. Malone, Wm. J. Miller, Charles Peregoy.

ARTILLERY.—2nd Regt.—Henry Clark, Albert Gruber, S. A. Pitts. 3d Regt.—Henry Koonitz, G. A. Kreiger, Henry Weil. 4th Regt.—Lieut. Edmund Bradford, Edwin R. Biles, Sergt. Major.

INFANTRY.—1st Regt.—A. R. French, 4th Regt.—Theodore Gregg, Color Sergt. 7th Regt.—Adam Fraber. 11th Regt.—Samuel Kraft. 12th Regt.—M. L. Bonham, Colonel; James W. Denver, Captain; Willard Ayers. 16th Regt.—Samuel V. Niles, Lieut.

Q. M. DEPT.—George V. Hebb, Capt. and A. Q. M.; George W. Martin (staff of Gen. Henry Whiting), Ed. Johannes, teamster.

U. S. NAVY.—James F. Milligan, Midshipman; Wm. Colligan, Richard Garrett, John R. Gould, Francis Merritt, John Nash, J. F. Mollere, Levi Louis, William Hareourt, D. W. Meniken, Thomas P. Russell, Wm. Silright, John Smith, B. F. Peddle, Ross Johnson, W. H. Perkins, Frederick Selway, John Browers, Matthew Sherman, Daniel Witz, William Williams, MARINE CORPS.—J. D. Simms. REVENUE MARINE.—Osman Peters.

#### VOLUNTEERS—BY STATES AND REGIMENTS.

CALIFORNIA.—Capt. John A. Snitter.

GEORGIA.—1st Inf.—John L. Ells.

ILLINOIS.—1st Inf.—Geo. S. Fisher, C. E. Goodell. 4th Inf.—J. H. Merrymon.

INDIANA.—1st Inf.—Douglas Dale.

KENTUCKY.—1st Inf.—Francis M. Scheit.

LOUISIANA.—3rd Inf.—Capt. G. Mason Graham, A. M. Kenaday. 6th Inf.—Henry R. Myers. 7th Inf.—Capt. J. C. Downer.

MARYLAND AND DIST. OF COLUMBIA.—1st Batt.—Capt. F. B. Schaeffer, Lieut. Joseph H. Ruddaeh; Sergt. L. F. Beeler, George Freeburger, John R. Hiltz, John Allen, John D. Preston, John Jacobs, Joshua Lloyd, A. J. Williams, John W. Hamilton, Wm. Lee. 2nd Regt.—Lieut. Col. Wm. H. Emory, Capt. Francis B. Schaeffer, David G. Murray, Ord. Sergt.; J. W. Smith, Wm. J. Nicolls, Gilbert Murdock, John H. Thompson, Edward Cooley, Thos. W. Mills.

MASSACHUSETTS.—Capt. W. W. H. Davis, Capt. E. A. Paul.

MISSOURI.—1st Cavalry—Thos. J. Bartholow, W. H. Richardson.

NEW YORK.—*Stevenson's Regt.*—Joseph G. Dow; F. D. Clark. *Burnett's Regiment.*—Col. Ward B. Burnett, W. B. Parisen, Joseph Henriques, M. L. Dorne, Thos. W. Mills, Edward Carr.

OHIO.—1st Inf.—Capt. Wm. B. Howard. 5th Inf.—M. D. Mentis.

PENNSYLVANIA.—*1st Regt.*—Howard M. Cole, Edward Atkins, Wm. French, Robert Reid. *2nd Regt.*—Lieut. Col. William Brindle, Lieut. Robert Klotz, Lieut. Thos. McCann, Thos. R. Crellin, William Ryninger, R. N. Firster, C. W. Diven.

SOUTH CAROLINA.—*Palmetto Regt.*—Capt. W. B. Stanley.

TEXAS.—*6th Cav.*—E. M. Greene.

VIRGINIA.—J. Richard Llewellyn, L. H. Fitzhugh, Andrew J. Copenhaver, John R. Onion, John H. Hunter, George W. Richardson, George W. Jennings, P. D. Sutton.

## FIFTH ANNUAL REUNION

OF THE

# NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF VETERANS

OF THE

## MEXICAN WAR.

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BALTIMORE, Feb. 22, 1878.

At 11 o'clock a. m. the members who had arrived in Baltimore the evening previous found their way, through the special notices left at the various hotels and announcements in the daily papers, to the spacious NEW ASSEMBLY ROOMS, situated on the corner of Lombard and Hanover streets, where they were warmly welcomed by their enthusiastic comrades of the Maryland State Association. Col. J. A. Ruddach the worthy President of the Marylanders, assisted by Vice Presidents Lewis F. Beeler, William Lee and John G. Fury, Treasurer David G. Murray, and Secretaries J. R. Gould and John L. Ells, and the local membership generally, took especial pride in making their visitors feel perfectly at home. After seeing their guests properly registered by the Secretary of the National Association, who had been in attendance from the previous day, they were shown the decorations of the Hall, tastefully arranged by a committee consisting of Comrades J. G. Fury, William Lee, John Allen, and Edward Johannes. Overhead National flags floated in lavish profusion, surrounding, but with no unfriendly intent, the colors of the Republic of Mexico, about which hung pendant a goodly number of baskets of rare and beautiful flowers. Behind the rostrum, on which were seats arranged for the officers of the Association, the coat-of-arms of each of the thirteen original States of the Union were grouped in an arch, with Pennsylvania for the keystone; the younger members of the sisterhood ornamenting the walls in the order of their admission. Beneath the arch hung the portrait of the gallant Lieutenant Colonel WILLIAM H. WATSON, commander of the 1st Battalion of Maryland and District of Columbia Volunteers in Mexico, who was killed at the head of his command at Monterey, on the 21st of September, 1846. The flag, in which his body was enwrapped, and brought to his native State for interment, hung in one of the ante-rooms, and has ever since been regarded as a sacred relic by the surviving members of the battalion. Beneath the President's chair, and immediately behind the table allotted to the Secretary, was displayed a unique collection of relics, very suggestive of olden times to many members present. The grouping consisted of a Mexican *serape* in the back-ground (captured from a guerrilla, who had no further use for it); a *macheta*, that had evidently done good service in cutting pathways through the chapparal for its owner's escape on previous occasions; an *escopeta*,—(some old English soldier's musket razed to suit the less stalwart *diego* of the tropics); a Mexican saddle, a pair of boots, a sword and a lance—the whole surrounded by an American flag and presenting a picture that would make our old *camarado*, NAR. SCREECHER, Esq., or any other Texas Ranger, fairly howl!

While the Secretary is making these observations and jotting them down for the edification of absent members, Marshal George A. Freeburger is getting together a squad of Baltimoreans to go down to the Camden Depot and welcome the members from Washington City, who were due in the 11 o'clock train.

The party soon returned, escorting General J. W. Denver, President; General John Love, 1st Vice; Treasurer, S. V. Niles, General G. Mason Graham, General W. W. H. Davis, General Ward B. Burnett, Governor M. L. Bonham, Colonel W. B. Stanley, General John A. Sutter, General T. J. Bartholow, and many others from all parts of the Union, who had been sojourning a few days in Washington in anticipation of the annual meeting. Upon entering the main hall the party were greeted with enthusiastic cheers, and Colonel Ruddach in behalf of the Maryland Association ascended the rostrum with President Denver and delivered an

appropriate address of welcome to the Monumental City, of which they were the representatives in Mexico.

President Denver feelingly responded. He thanked the Maryland Association in behalf of the members from abroad for their kind reception. "We could not," said the President, "ask for a better display than you have prepared for us, and we receive it as an indication of the hearty good feeling which exists and which should always exist between us." Further along he remarked with emotion: "I greet you, comrades, on this anniversary of our organization, not as I would like to, because I regret to say that our ranks have been sadly thinned since we last met. Among our losses during the past year are enumerated such men as George W. McCook, who was esteemed by all who knew him as a man who had a proper appreciation of himself and respect for the opinions of others--a man who boldly did what his conscience told him was right." He then introduced to the audience Captain John A. Sutter, the venerable pioneer of California, upon whose rancho the gold fields were first discovered. Captain Sutter was greeted with cheers and applause, and bowed his acknowledgment.

The following telegraphic dispatch, at that moment received from General Green Clay Smith, of Kentucky, who had been selected by the previous convention as orator of the day for this occasion, was read by the President.

*"President Mexican Veteran Association."*—At the last moment I found it impossible to come, which I deeply regret."

A recess was then taken till 12 o'clock, in order to give the delegations just arrived an opportunity to register their names.

#### REGULAR PROCEEDINGS.

At 12 o'clock the President announced from the chair that the order of business would be proceeded with, and directed Secretary Kenaday to call the roll of officers, inviting such of them as were present to take seats upon the platform.

The following officers, members of the National Association, responded when their names were called: President, General J. W. Denver; 1st Vice President, General John Love; 1st Secretary, A. M. Kenaday; Treasurer, Captain S. V. Niles; Marshal, General E. R. Biles; Assistant Secretary, L. F. Beeler, Esq.; Finance Committee, M. D. Montis, Esq.; Colonel George S. Fisher, V. P. of Georgia; General G. Mason Graham, V. P. of Louisiana; Colonel J. H. Ruddach, V. P. and D. G. Murray, C. of A. of Maryland; General William Colligan, C. of A. of New York; Colonel Robert Klotz, V. P. of Pennsylvania; Colonel W. B. Stanley, C. of A. of South Carolina; General James Tilton, V. P. of Washington Territory; Martin L. Dorn, C. of A. of West Virginia.

A motion was made to appoint a committee on credentials.

The President stated that this was a meeting of members of the National Association, and that all members thereof were entitled to participate in the proceedings. He suggested that it would be economy of time to read the list of names registered, and proceed to business; which was accordingly done.

[The names of members of the National Association present, classified by corps, regiments, &c., as appear by their written statements of service filed with the Secretary, will be found on page 3. It will be seen in the course of the proceedings that two or three individuals took part in the meeting who, if they ever rendered service in Mexico, for reasons best known to themselves have never made written application to become members, as required by the Constitution, but have repeatedly attended the meetings and for no friendly purpose, apparently. While a faithful report of the proceedings would, perhaps, not justify exclusion of their motions, &c., it is the duty of the Secretary to show their *status* in the Association in connection with such motions, &c.]

On motion, the reading of the proceedings of the last annual meeting was dispensed with, the same having been published in pamphlet form and distributed by mail to all the members. Extra copies were on hand for those who had failed to receive them.

General Ward B. Burnett, commander of the New York volunteers who served in Mexico, submitted a communication from the Adjutant General of the Army, addressed to General Burnett, as follows:

"Sir—In answer to your verbal request of November 15, 1877, I respectfully inform you that the regiment commanded by Colonel Ward B. Burnett is considered by this office as the First New York Volunteers Mexican War. That regiment was mustered in and out of service as the First."

General Burnett stated his only object in submitting the letter was to correct an

error which the Association had fallen into in regard to the number of his regiment.

Francis D. Clark, of New York, who went to California in the regiment commanded by Colonel J. D. Stevenson, with much vigor contended that the regiment to which he belonged was entitled to be called the "First," and his ardor attracted to his side of the question several persons who were not particularly interested.

The President, discovering on the floor a disposition to wrangle over the subject, interposed with a remark that no person could dispute the fact that both Colonel Burnett and Colonel Stevenson commanded regiments of New York Volunteers during the Mexican War, but that no person outside of those regiments cared which was first or second.

A motion was made to lay the subject on the table, and was passed.\*

The President appointed a committee of which Col. J. H. Ruddach was chairman, to select an orator from among the members present to fill the place, during the evening, assigned to General Green Clay Smith, by the last meeting.

[At a later stage of the proceedings, Colonel Ruddach reported that General William W. H. Davis, of Doylestown, Pa., (Captain of Company I, 1st Massachusetts Volunteers in Mexico,) had consented to recite his recollections of the "Halls of the Montezumas," for the entertainment of his comrades and the invited guests of the Baltimore Association, at 8 o'clock, p. m. The announcement was received with applause.]

Mr. Francis D. Clark, of New York and New Jersey, again occupied the attention of the meeting with a motion that a Committee of Inquiry be appointed with reference to the cannon donated by order of the President of the United States for the purpose of making medals, &c., &c., and what amount of money had been received by Secretary Kenaday, how many had been distributed, &c.

Several members rose.

Captain Samuel V. Niles, Treasurer of the Association, and member of the Finance Committee, said he regretted to see the spirit of detraction and ill-feeling which has been again and again leveled at the Secretary by a few individuals who appear to have no other object in attending our reunions but to find fault with that officer. The subject of the proposed inquiry was investigated at the meeting of February, 1876, and not satisfied with this, another inquiry was instituted last February. In every investigation the Secretary has been vindicated, and has shown a great deal of patience to continue in his arduous duties under such continued abuse.

[A member from New York interrupted the speaker by saying that members in that State had no connection with Mr. Clark's plan of action, or words to that effect.]

Captain Niles continued, saying that the Secretary had courted investigation, because he knew that such insinuations were calculated, if not designed, to impair his usefulness to the members in the position assigned to him. His accounts have been subject to examination by the President and the Finance Committee of the Association, and I have before me now an abstract of his receipts and disbursements, and the latter exceed the former without making any allowance whatever for his own services during the past five years. His annual report will show the number of medals distributed this year as it did last year. Captain Niles made some further remarks in relation to the difficulties surrounding the Secretary's office and his energy in overcoming them &c. M. D. Montis, Esq., member of Finance Committee, followed the Treasurer, in commendation of the Secretary's efforts.

Colored Henry Ray Myers, of Alabama, stated that he was glad to hear these testimonials of his old comrade, who he believed to be an honest man. He served with Sergeant Kenaday thirty-two years ago in Company "G," Third Dragoons, and he was as "brave a man as ever drew a sabre," &c., &c.

A gentleman present from New York, whose name does not appear among the members of the Association, arose and stated that he was the Quartermaster-Sergeant of the Third Dragoons and he did not recognize Secretary Kenaday as a member of the company which he claimed to belong to. (Sensation.)

Colonel Myers remarked that there was nothing strange in that circumstance. That he did not recognize the "Quartermaster Sergeant" in the speaker. But he

\*A later statement of the Adjutant General dated April 13, 1878, shows that Burnett's regiment was mustered into service as 1st New York Volunteers, and was so designated until January, 1848, and was then mustered as 2d New York Volunteers. After muster out of service it was designated as 1st New York Volunteers.

That Stevenson's Regiment was mustered in as 7th New York Volunteers, until February 28, 1848, and subsequent to that date was mustered as 1st New York Volunteers.

did know Sergeant Kenaday by long and intimate Association in the same company and in sharing the same dangers.

"The "Quartermaster Sergeant" here stated that he did not recognize Myers as a member of the Third Dragoons either, which caused some merriment.

Colonel Meyers reported that the "Quartermaster Sergeant" was with the headquarters of the regiment on the Rio Grande; but if any person doubted his (Myers') record, by a simple inquiry at the Pension Office it could be ascertained that he had been drawing a pension for the past thirty-one years for a wound received as a member of Company "G" on Scott's line of the army in Mexico.

General T. J. Bartholow followed with some remarks and moved a vote of thanks to Secretary Kenaday for his zeal, energy, &c., which passed *nem. con.*, and further prosecution of Mr. Clark's motion was dropped.

#### TREASURER'S REPORT.

Captain S. V. Niles submitted the following statement of transactions of his office for the year ending February 22, 1878:

Cash on hand February 22, 1877, .....	\$30.96
Amount of collections to defray expenses of Willard Hall, February 22, 1877, .....	32.35
Amount paid by Nevada State Association, Carson City, being balance of assessment of 1874, .....	25.00

Total amount, \$88.31

#### EXPENSES.

Amount paid for use of Willard Hall, .....	\$20.00
Amount paid Secretary as per vouchers of expenses in 1875, ....	25.00

Balance, \$43.31

(Subject to reduction of some small payments due amounting to \$8 or \$10.)

Respectfully submitted.

S. V. NILES, *Treasurer.*

President Denver called Secretary Kenaday to the platform to read his Annual Report as follows:

#### ANNUAL REPORT OF THE SECRETARY.

HEADQUARTERS NATIONAL ASSOCIATION VETERANS MEXICAN WAR.

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY, 525 6TH STREET N. W.

WASHINGTON, D. C. *February 22, 1878.*

GENERAL J. W. DENVER, President, &c.

Sir: For the information of members, I respectfully submit the following review of the transactions of my office for the past year.

#### DISTRIBUTION OF LAST ANNUAL PROCEEDINGS.

On the 25th of June, 1878, the Finance Committee issued through the Secretary the following circular, addressed to the Vice Presidents, Council of Administration, and officers of city and county organizations, &c., to wit:

GENTLEMEN: The last meeting of the members of the National Association, held February 22, 1877, appointed a special committee to devise ways and means for defraying the expenses of printing the annual proceedings, reports, &c., who reported a plan of subscription by officers of the respective States, as follows: "New York, 200 copies; Pennsylvania, 200 copies; Maryland, 200 copies; District of Columbia 200 copies; Indiana, 200 copies; and all other States, each, 100 copies, or as many additional copies as they may desire. Price to be \$10 per hundred copies. *No copies to be forwarded, only on the orders from the respective State Associations—the money in all cases to accompany the application.*"

As the whole subject matter was subsequently referred to this committee for revision, we have found the proposed plan (which appears to have been well intended, but hastily considered) impracticable, in this, that a failure on the part of the officers of any State (not improbable in the light of past experience) to order a sufficient number of copies to supply all the members of the National Association within that State, would not only deprive such members of desirable information, but would

absolutely prevent the Secretary from supplying it to many persons who are duly enrolled as members, even upon their own application for the same.

We have therefore deemed it advisable to modify the plan suggested, and have authorized Secretary Kenaday to supply (in addition to the copies subscribed for) any person whose name is upon his rolls, or who makes application therefor, upon such terms as he thinks will remunerate him for his outlay of money and labor.

The Finance Committee beg leave to remind members, in this connection, that inasmuch as the Constitution imposes no "initiation fee" nor "yearly dues" upon veterans who desire to join the National Association, the current expenses for printing, postage, and the vast amount of correspondence and clerical labor involved in a membership so large, necessarily depends upon such voluntary aid as public-spirited and considerate members may feel inclined to contribute to that end. The Secretary has exhibited to the committee his method of recording such donations, which indicates a conscientious desire to account for every transaction in his office, and his manner of conducting the affairs entrusted to him by the Association, which met the unanimous approval of the committee appointed at the last meeting to investigate the same, also met with our hearty endorsement.

We recommend that all orders be forwarded to Secretary Kenaday *within ten days after receipt of this circular*, to enable him to regulate the size of the edition to be printed, and have them circulated some weeks prior to the assembling of Congress, in October, if possible.

Respectfully,

S. P. HEINTZELMAN,  
SAMUEL V. NILES,  
M. D. MONTIS,

Committee of Finance.

The responses received up to August 15th, when it was deemed necessary to have pamphlets printed and distributed before the meeting of Congress, in October, were as follows:

From E. A. Peyton, See, Miss. Ass'n, 50 copies.....	\$5 00
" Gen. G. Mason Graham, V. P. for La., 100 copies.....	10 00
" Gen. John Love, 1st V. P. for Indiana, 200 copies.....	20 00
" D. G. Murray, Treas. for Md. Ass'n, 200 copies.....	20 00
" S. W. Smith, Treas. for Ills. Ass'n, 100 copies.....	10 50
 Total.....	 \$65 50

A few individual subscriptions swelled the amount to \$78. Notwithstanding these discouraging returns (for I know from personal experience the difficulty of collecting such assessments) I determined to again assume the risk of printing and distributing the pamphlet, and trust to *voluntary aid*, as suggested by the Finance Committee, for return of the cash outlay. Accordingly, in August I put the matter (which had been revised by the committee, and approved.) into the hands of the printer, and issued 8,000 copies, filling all orders received, and distributing the remainder to every comrade whose name I had collected during the past five years, prepaying the postage thereon. Since the publication I have received, and noted to the credit of the donors, an aggregate of \$283 in currency and postage stamps, including the subscriptions above referred to. The actual cash expended on the book, for paper, printing, folding, postage, &c., was \$379.54—without including the labor of members of my family. Deficiency, \$96.84. The cost of printing 7,000 copies of the previous year was \$361.17; while the printing of 8,000 copies this year was only \$18.37 more. At the date of my last report I stated the loss on actual cash outlay at \$207.22. Subsequently I received and credited on that account \$25 from the St. Louis Ass'n, \$20 from the Washington Ass'n, \$10 from Wm. Smith, of Nevada, for obtaining his land warrant, and other small donations, amounting altogether to \$93 leaving the deficiency \$114.22.

#### INCREASE OF ENROLLED MEMBERS.

My last annual report showed an aggregate of 4,629 enrolled members, of which number 3,097 had received the badge insignia of membership. At this writing, the number of badges procured by members is 3,517—being an increase of 320 badge members during the past year—making a total of 4,949 "enrolled" members. I have, however, the names of 7,000, in round numbers, who are supplied with the printed proceedings, &c., and the 2,000 not yet enrolled will doubtless join the organization in due form when circumstances permit. The stock of badges on hand last year

having been exhausted, I procured an additional supply of 1,000 shields from the U. S. Mint, and, at the present rate of demand, it will be some time before those now on hand will be exhausted. It is proper to say that the die from which they were cast will probably never be used again, and those desiring this souvenir should apply early.

#### THE DEATH RATE OF MEMBERS.

At our last meeting, it will be remembered, our lamented friend and comrade Gen. George W. McCook, Lieut. Col. 3d Ohio Vols, in Mexico, whose sudden death on the 28th of December last, in New York city, has been announced and deplored all over the country, offered a resolution directing the Secretary to communicate with the various State Associations with a view to ascertaining the number of their members who have died since the beginning of this organization, which was accordingly done through the medium of the last pamphlet. The responses received from individual members have been quite numerous, and a mourning mark drawn around the name of the deceased comrade on the rolls indicates his departure, and the date thereof, where it was transmitted by the informant. The only response, however, that will serve as a basis for estimating the annual death rate, is that received from the Baltimore Association, which numbers about 150 members, according to my information. Their Secretary recently reported to me the loss of sixteen members during the year 1877. If this sad rate of mortality may be accepted as an indication of the general decrease of our numbers, it is calculated to awaken mournful reflections, and should remind us that in the ordinary allotment of time to perform our duties to one another on earth, none of us can afford to waste the few remaining days of usefulness that we can reasonably claim. Gen. McCook will be remembered by those present at our last meeting, as appearing to be one of the best preserved members in attendance, and when we recall the interest and zeal which he manifested in behalf of our cause, we cannot resist a poignant feeling of regret at his untimely death. Through the kindness of comrade C. N. Allen, C. of A., Steubenville, Ohio, the Secretary has been supplied with a sketch of Gen. McCook's career, and the obituary testimonials of his neighbors and friends, which will be carefully preserved with the records relating to our membership in Ohio.

#### THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION'S PHOTOGRAPH ALBUM.

The responses to my request for photograph likenesses of members, with a view to preserving them in an album, arranged by regiments, and thus affording Mr. Brady an opportunity to add to his collection of "Distinguished Representative Men of America," purchased by Congress—have not been sufficiently numerous as yet to justify the preparation of the volume. Those already received—about 28 in number—are carefully filed. When the pension bill is passed, it is hoped that many of the members will forward their photographs as a contribution to the archives of the Association.

#### PETITION TO THE 45TH CONGRESS

The failure of our bill for a pension in the 44th Congress necessitated proceedings *de novo* when the 45th Congress assembled on the 15th of October last. During the summer I prepared a statement of our case, based on data in my possession derived from various authentic sources of information, and a careful personal study of the subject from different points of view, and formulated the knowledge thus obtained in the shape of a petition to the Senate and House of Representatives. I submitted the manuscript to Gen. Albert Pike, C. of A. of the District of Columbia, for revision, who approved it entirely, and when Gen. Denver returned to the city, the petition was formally signed and presented—in the Senate by Hon. J. J. Ingalls, Chairman of the Pension Committee, and in the House by Hon. J. K. Luttrell, of California, when, at his request, it was printed in the Congressional Record, as follows:

#### PETITION OF THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF VETERANS OF THE MEXICAN WAR.

*To the honorable the Senate and House of Representatives*

*of the United States of America in Congress assembled:*

Your petitioners, in behalf of their comrades, the National Association of Veterans of the Mexican War of 1846, a body composed of survivors of the army and navy

engaged in that memorable conflict of arms with a foreign power, most respectfully beg leave to renew their humble petition, submitted to Congress in February, 1874, praying that a pension of \$8 a month be allowed to all surviving officers and men who were engaged in the service during that war and received honorable discharge, the same to continue during the brief remainder of their natural lives; and also asking that the widows of deceased soldiers and sailors be included, as has been heretofore allowed by the act of Congress to the survivors of 1812.

Your petitioners are impressed with the belief that compliance with their previous prayer has been delayed to this day in consequence of erroneous estimates heretofore submitted to the Senate by the Commissioner of Pensions, who had been called upon by the honorable chairman of the committee investigating the case, to furnish reliable information as to the probable number of survivors and the cost to the public Treasury if the just request were acceded to.

By these estimates, so furnished from time, it was made to appear that a much larger sum of the public money would be required than the facts, since ascertained by your petitioners, and herein respectfully submitted for careful consideration, will warrant the Pension Office in maintaining hereafter; because it is shown that the estimates of the Commissioner were founded upon grossly erroneous bases, which would have been exposed long ago had the mysterious process by which he worked out his conclusions been available to your petitioners.

The Commissioner's estimate conveys the idea that the ratio of survivors of the war of 1812, forty-seven years after the commencement of that war, was ascertained by mathematical interpolation to be 3 in 8 of the troops enrolled, and gave the result of this calculation as 40,100 survivors. To prove the accuracy of this preceived opinion, he adverts to the actual number of applications for pensions filed subsequently to the passage of the act of February 14, 1871, about 42,000 in round numbers. A critical examination of the matter, however, readily exposes the error of the Pension Office. The total number of men employed in the war of 1812, as shown by the report of the Adjutant-General of March 4, 1850, was 471,672. Now if the ratio adopted (3 in 8) had been correctly given, it would have shown 176,858 survivors, instead of 40,100, as stated in the return.

Yet this false ratio, alleged to have been used in the 1812 case, has been utilized by the Pension Office to misrepresent the number of survivors of the Mexican war, amplified, however, to 4 in 8, in order to make up for the difference in time in the two cases; by which process the extravagant result of about 52,500 survivors of the Mexican war is produced.

Very naturally this estimate, emanating from an official source on a call for impartial information, had a powerful influence on the minds of honorable Senators and Representatives, who recognized the justice of the memorial presented to them, but were constrained to postpone definite action because of the drain on the Treasury supposed to be involved.

In the meantime, however, through the instrumentality of the National Association in the several States and Territories (organized for the purpose of rendering proper assistance to the aged and decrepit survivors, constituting perhaps three-fourths of the membership, without asylum or pecuniary means at their command) earnest and persistent efforts have been made to learn the whereabouts of every living comrade, with a view to furnishing to the honorable Representatives of the people in Congress a reasonable approximation to the number likely to become beneficiaries under the proposed law. To this end the simple method adopted by the association has been to enroll the names transmitted to headquarters from all the States and Territories, according to the respective regiments and battalions in which they served in Mexico, without special regard to their present place of residence. The whole number of survivors' names thus transferred to the association rolls since the work began, now nearly five years, is about 7,000, which includes many already on the pension-rolls, and the names of others who have died since the organization. Of this number, 4,629 have been classified by regiments, &c., at the close of the last Congress. Of this *fractional number* of the names filed, there was found an average of 41 survivors to 25 of the regular army regiments; 45 to 5 Indiana regiments; 43 to 5 Kentucky regiments; and 46 to 5 Ohio regiments of volunteers. Assuming that this fractional number covers fully one-half of the men still living, say 9,258 in all, which amount is 2,258 more than the State and county associations have been able to trace, your honorable body will have a reasonable basis of calculation. The forty regiments referred to consist of 400 companies, and embrace a total of 3,400 survivors, being an average of 8.5 to the company. The official records (report of Adjutant-General, December 3, 1849) show there were 100,445 troops, rank and file, employed during the war, and further examination will show there were 1,033 companies of men being, according to the aggregate given, an average of 97 men

to the company. Multiplying the whole number of companies by the number of survivors found in 400 companies gives a total of 8,780. (1,033x8.5=8,780.)

Your petitioners respectfully submit that the above method of calculating the number of survivors of the Mexican war, most of whom participated in the late war, is far more practical than the ordinary processes; but in any estimate based on the number employed in the war, the facts should be taken into the account that 12,896 deaths occurred in the army during the war from all causes; 2,778 were mustered, but immediately discharged, without proceeding to the seat of war; and 6,725 were deserters. In addition to the above; there were 9,749 soldiers discharged on account of wounds and other disabilities incurred in the line of duty, which has already placed many of them on the pension-rolls, (the Pension Commissioner recently reported about 5,000 on the rolls;) and it is also well known that large numbers of the three, six, and twelve months' volunteers re-enlisted after expiration of their terms, and their names are thus duplicated in the grand aggregate.

In regard to the merits of the case, your petitioners respectfully invite attention to the resolutions of approval from the various State Legislatures, heretofore submitted to Congress, and to the following report of the minority of the House Committee of Pensions in the Forty-third Congress, which was also embraced in the report of the House committee of the Forty-fourth Congress, and received the unanimous approval of the House of Representatives on the 4th of January, 1877. The report was prepared in the spring of 1875, to wit :

“VIEWS OF THE MINORITY.

“The minority of the Committee on Invalid Pensions, to whom were referred the memorial of the National Convention of Mexican War Survivors, who assembled in Washington City on the 15th of January, 1874, asking to be placed on the pension-rolls, and also bill (H. R. 577) granting pensions to the survivors of the Mexican war, have had the subject under consideration, and submit the following report as their views:

“The Federal Government early adopted the policy of rewarding its soldiers and sailors who perilled their lives in the military and naval service to save the life of the Republic with donations out of the public domain as well as by moneyed pensions. This policy has been steadily adhered to as wise, just, and humane.

“The soldiers and sailors of the Mexican war of 1846 and 1848 suffered incredible hardships under a tropical sun and a malarious climate, and by endurance, valor, and indomitable energy vanquished their foes and brought victory to our arms in a manner so glorious as to deserve at the hands of the country the recognition prayed for in their memorial.

“The fruits of the Mexican War resulted in adding an immense area of rich territory to our public domain, out of which new States have been carved and others are yet to be added, besides a mineral wealth that has not only given great impetus to, but has enlarged and diversified the industry and commerce of, the western continent.

“The war commenced in the spring of 1846, and our soldiers were disbanded in July, 1848. Thus, in about two years, our troops marched into an enemy's country of vast extent, lying more than a thousand miles from the centre of our population, containing eight millions of people, subdued them, and dictated their own terms of peace.

“What did we gain by that war? The great State of Texas was involved. The Mexicans claimed *all* that vast territory. This peace enabled us to establish her present lines and sever her for ever from that domination. By the treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo of February 2, 1848, and the Gadsden purchase of December, 1853, Mexico ceded to the United States the territory now covered by the States of California, Nevada, part of Nebraska, also all claim to the territory covered by the State of Texas and by the Territories of Utah, Arizona and New Mexico, by portions of the Territories of Wyoming and Colorado, and by the unorganized territory lying west of the Indian Territory, embracing in all about 937,875 square miles. This vast area contained more territory than all the organized States of the Union did at the time of its acquisition. To form some estimate of its richness and fertility, its value and commercial importance, we have but to examine its statistics for the past few years. The entire population of the newly-acquired territory in 1850 only numbered 406,657 inhabitants, and in 1870 had increased to 1,772,000 persons. The total wealth in 1850 was \$1,062,899; but in 1870 it had swelled to \$965,622,071. But so rapidly have the population and wealth increased within the past few years that at least one-fifth may be added to these figures for the year since the taking of the census, which will give us over two million inhabitants and about \$1,200,000,000 of wealth. And in all the industries of the country this acquired

section will bear a favorable comparison according to population and wealth. In mining resources, however, it outstrips all the balance of the Union together; it is literally the great gold-field of America and of the world. Take, for example, the year 1860, and the total product of gold and silver in the United States amounted to \$61,500,000, of which sum the following amounts were produced, to wit:

California.....	\$22,500,000
Colorado and Wyoming.....	4,000,000
Arizona.....	1,000,000
New Mexico.....	500,000
Nevada.....	14,000,000

Total..... 42,000,000

"And if this should be taken for an average year since 1850, say for the past twenty-five years, then we will have a yield of \$1,050,000,000, or over one billion dollars. This enormous sum has been sufficient of itself to give an impetus to the commerce of the whole continent, and has had its influence on the civilized world. But the mining resources of this section are believed to be inexhaustible. We have but just commenced, as it were, to dig the hidden wealth imbedded in this El Dorado of America. A recent discovery of a *bonanza* in the Silver mines of Nevada is variously estimated by mining engineers to be worth from \$300,000,000 to a sum surpassing belief, stated as high as \$1,500,000,000.

"But this territory was not only valuable in itself on account of its intrinsic wealth and resources, but it became the great highway to the Pacific Ocean and the Orient for the older and more densely populated States of the Union. In this respect alone it would more than compensate for all the expenditures of the Mexican war. Who is capable of estimating the value and importance of this acquisition, or by what method can it be estimated? If we undertake to fix a value upon it, we must do so by statistics of what it is now and what it was when acquired, comparing the one with the other in all the changes that have been wrought. But this must fail to give any just idea of its greatness and value to the country. We can form a better idea by asking the question, for what consideration would the General Government part with this 937,785 square miles, with its two millions of people and untold resources and commanding position in the continent, holding in its arms the great gateway to the empires of the East? No money consideration could buy it at all; its value is beyond price; we could not do without it; we can see it in a bright and glorious future of a dense population, containing all the true characteristics of wealth, refinement, and a high order of civilization. No war with a foreign country has produced such results in so short a time, and no troops acquitted themselves with more honor and made greater sacrifices during that period of their services. Having gained for the whole country that which for value cannot be estimated, and having reached a period when many of these veterans are in need, many of them in absolute want, and without the privilege of asylum in the home established by a fund in which every soldier who served in Mexico has an interest, the country should not refuse to reward such faithful and worthy patriots. These soldiers who entered service in 1846, twenty-nine years ago, must be over fifty years of age, and are too feeble to compete with younger men in physical labor. The proceedings of the convention, and a report of the officers of the association appointed by the convention to gather statistics in regard to the number of surviving veterans have been submitted to the committee, from which it appears that less than ten thousand are known to be alive. From the testimony submitted, the committee are of opinion that 10 per cent. of the whole number of officer, soldiers, sailors, and marines engaged in the war from beginning to end will cover, in round numbers, the survivors. Of this number, a large proportion are now on the pension-rolls for wounds received in Mexico and in later wars. Several of the State Legislatures have passed resolutions requesting their Representatives in Congress to favor the passage of a law granting pensions to these old soldiers; and if the question was left to the decision of the people by a popular vote, in view of all the facts, the pension would undoubtedly be allowed by an overwhelming majority.

"These soldiers have fought those battles and acquired that territory, and, without regard to past or present political views, should be recognized by the Government. Such an act would bring about a reconciliation between the two sections of our country more happily than any other act upon the part of the Government."

it deserves, and at an early date, we subscribe ourselves, by authority of the National Association,

J. W. DENVER, *President,*

ALEX'R. M. KENADAY, *First Secretary.*

BILLS INTRODUCED IN CONGRESS.

As an evidence of the popularity of our appeal to the generosity of Congress, it is a noteworthy fact that within a few days after the assembling of Congress, bills covering our prayer were presented in the Senate by Senators Merriman, of North Carolina; Ingalls, of Kansas; and Voorhees, of Indiana. In the House, by Messrs. Seales, of North Carolina, Felton, of Georgia; Hewitt, of Alabama; Thomas Turner, of Kentucky; Durnam of Kentucky; Whitthorne, of Tennessee; Riddle of Tennessee; Sparks, Illinois; Fort, of Illinois; Gunter, of Arkansas; Throckmorton, of Texas; and Luttrell, of California. All these bills were referred to the Pension Committees of the respective houses, and assigned by the chairman to sub-committees for investigation. In the House Committee, Hon. Goldsmith W. Hewitt, of Alabama, had special charge of our case, who made an elaborate report, covering twelve octavo pages, reciting clearly the facts of the case, and discussing with great acumen the points of law involved, sustaining his arguments with recognized authorities.

In the Senate our case will be championed when it comes there from the House by Hon. Daniel W. Voorhees, of Indiana, who is giving the subject special consideration, and his speech may be looked for with great interest. Hon. S. B. Maxey, of Texas, it is expected, will also advocate our cause, and others.

A PARTING SHOT FROM THE PENSION OFFICE.

On the 1st of November last, Senator Ingalls, as Chairman of the Senate Committee of Pensions, referred to the Commissioner of Pensions a copy of our last proceedings, and enquired if he still adhered to the estimate of the number of survivors furnished by his office to the Senate Committee, 21st of February, 1877, (which he would find printed in our report on page 28,) in view of the criticisms on said report embodied in pages 29 and 30 of the pamphlet. In reply, the Commissioner transmitted Miscellaneous Document No. 13, dated November 23, 1877. The letter occupies too much space to include it in our proceedings, but a review of the document was made by me before the local association of Washington, December 1, 1877, (soon after it was made public.) which takes up the main points raised by the Commissioner, and which was reported at the time by the press of Washington, as follows:

"The Secretary, Mr. A. M. Kenaday, read the Commissioner's letter to the meeting and reviewed the matter substantially as follows:

"The Commissioner admits in his reply that, 'in the nature of things, no estimate of the number of these survivors can be absolute certainty;' but in vindication of his approximate estimate submitted last February, he now quotes from the Carlisle tables, published years ago in a British encyclopedia, and regarded as a standard authority by life assurance actuaries, a calculation pretending to show that out of 100,000 births 58,360 live to the age of twenty-six years, (the average age of Mexican war soldiers when enlisted,) and 40,000 of the above number attain to fifty-six years of age, (the present average of the survivors of Mexico.) The 100,000 people contemplated by these tables are presumed to live in the serenity of peaceful life in the healthy climate of old England, but the Commissioner does not say so. He prefers to deduce from these tables that out of 66,087 men (the number given by him as a basis for pension estimate) who escaped death and returned to their homes from the Mexican war thirty years ago there are yet living 45,601—nearly three-fourths of the entire number discharged.

"Although it is admitted in the Commissioner's letter that 11,467 men died in Mexico during the two years of the war from natural causes, other than the killed and wounded, he entirely overlooks the probability that large numbers of the disbanded men brought home with them the seed of the malarial diseases which proved so fatal in Mexico and ultimately destroyed them here.

"Another very important factor in the account is disposed of by the Commissioner in a summary manner. He says: 'I have no means of determining how many survivors of the Mexican war served in the two contending armies during the rebellion, nor how many were killed while so serving, or have died on account of

that service; and I therefore make no attempt to estimate that element of the case." It is a notorious fact, nevertheless, that nearly all the survivors of Mexico participated in the late civil war, and the most distinguished leaders on either side of the conflict acquired their skill and practical knowledge of warfare in Mexico. Large numbers of them are now pensioners and inmates of the various military asylums for disabilities incurred in the late war, and who are also members of the National Association and unselfishly clamorous for a pension to their comrades.

"But the Commissioner need not refer to English mortality statistics to make an approximate estimate of survivors; for the records of his own office afford far more practicable data, if properly computed. For instance, during the war of 1812-15 there were 527,654 enlisted men, according to his own published reports. The pension law of 1871—say fifty-six years after the war—was the potent means of discovering 28,548 survivors, (including the *widows of deceased soldiers*,) being a little short of 5½ per cent. of the aggregate enrolled. Now, let the Commissioner double, treble, or even quadruple that percentage, if he thinks proper, in order to make up for the difference of time in the two cases, and apply it to the number of Mexican veterans, which he sets down as a basis for pension estimate, (66,087,) and his approximation thus arrived at will at least come within the bounds of common understanding.

"But the truth is, as the honorable commissioner frankly states, "no estimate can be made with absolute certainty;" least of all, he might add, by the insurance tables as applied to soldiers. The most rational approximation perhaps can be arrived at by the practical method of reckoning adopted by the National Association, whereby the average number of survivors found belonging to forty regiments—400 companies—proved to be 8.5 to each company. The whole number of companies in the war being 1,033, by this ratio gives a total of 8,780, as more clearly shown in the petition submitted to the House, and printed in the *Congressional Record* of November 3.

"The Commissioner remarks that the soldiers of the Mexican War were all "examined at enlistment," and those physically unsound were rejected. This statement is not accurate so far as the volunteers were concerned. They were mustered in by their respective States, without regard to age or physical qualifications required in the regular service.

"The estimate of last February was a marvelous production, and on account of its official character wrought much trouble and anxiety among the veterans, until it was brought before the light of day for examination, when it collapsed like a soap-bubble. The present calculation is a more plausible contrivance to reach the same result by a different method. But it lacks consistency when intelligently analyzed. It is admirably prepared to "confound the ignorant and amaze the wise," but is not likely to avail much in connection with the egregious blunders of the previous estimate from the same source.

"What puzzles the average mind is how to reconcile the discrepancy in the Commissioner's statement, that out of 100,000 births, 40,000 live 56 years; while out of 66,087 discharged Mexican veterans, worn out with hardship and exposure in a malarious climate, 45,601 reach the age of 56 years. Like Dundreary's pun, this is 'one of those things that no fellow can find out.'

The information is furnished for the Senate of the United States; but, fortunately for the old soldiers, the members of that body know well enough that while the Carlisle tables may be perhaps useful in studying the vital economy of nature, or in calculating the gradual mortality of vast populations, they will utterly fail when applied to small communities or families. What Mexican veteran will believe that three out of four of his comrades discharged thirty years ago are still living? None but a fossilized "figure maniac" will contend that a given hundred or a given thousand of men will live through a lifetime in accordance with these rules of geometrical progression, especially when applied to those elements of population making up the armies of a nation. Mathematics may be infallible in reckoning interest on money or in measuring the distances of planets, but the duration of human life in individual cases is beyond any method of computation.

"Other members expressed their views, and one old veteran compared the Pension-Office to Chepultepec—out of every port-hole or window hung a placard: "Soldiers of '46 need not apply." He favored raising the siege and organizing a storming party to clean out the concern from cellar to roof."

#### THE THREE MONTHS' EXTRA PAY LAW OF 1848.

The Act of July 19, 1848, granting three months' extra pay to the officers and soldiers of the Mexican war who were honorably discharged, (or first to the widows,

second to the children, third to the parents, fourth to the brothers and sisters,) provided the officer or soldier was in actual service during the war, has again passed the House of Representatives, and in the Senate Military Committee it was so amended as to include also the officers, petty officers, sailors and marines who served in the Mexican war. It is confidently expected this bill will pass during this Congress. The repeal of this law in 1870 was a gross injustice to the men who had never received this pittance. It should, however, be borne in mind that those volunteers and "during the war" regulars who were discharged in *August, 1848, and subsequently* were paid off at time of discharge by the Pay Department of the Army, and it would be useless for such to make an application again. The fee in such cases is so small that it will hardly justify an attorney in preparing a case (not exceeding 10 per cent. on amount collected,) but if the law is revived the Secretary will supply blanks and instructions to any member applying for them, provided that, in his judgment the case as stated by the applicant appears to have a reasonable chance of success—otherwise he will not encourage applicants to incur expense in a fruitless cause, where the amount involved cannot exceed \$24 for dragoons and \$21 for artillery and infantry.

Respectfully submitted

A. M. KENADAY, *Secretary.*

[NOTE.—On the 18th of April, Senator Maxey, of Texas, called up this bill for consideration, and in explaining the Senate Committee's amendment, including the officers, seamen and marines belonging to the Gulf Squadron, paid a handsome tribute to the "boys in blue" (It will be remembered that the Senator himself served through the Mexican war as second Lieutenant of the 7th United States Infantry, commanding his company at Contreras and Cherubusco, and received a brevet for gallant conduct.) He said:

"I think the most gallant thing I ever saw anywhere was the movement of Commodore Tatnall against the castle of San Juan de Ulloa, just preceding the siege of Vera Cruz. Those who were engaged in it certainly distinguished themselves for their courage in that movement."

He also referred to the exclusion under the old law of the officers and soldiers of the regular establishment, and contended they were equitably entitled to the three months' pay likewise.

Senator Edmunds, of Vermont, however, thought it would be unwise to re-enact this law without a full report from the Secretary of War, saying the act was evidently intended to apply to volunteers and not to men who enlist in the regular service and "make war their regular business."

The single objection of the Vermont Senator carried the bill over, and it was found impossible to call it up again during the session. Vermont, it will be remembered, vigorously opposed the Mexican war during its continuance, and her Senators and Representatives of to-day appear to be still obeying the instructions of her Legislature of that eventful period. "Consistency is a jewel!"

#### FURTHER PROCEEDINGS.

Mr. W. L. Tidball arose and submitted a long report as coming from the committee appointed in February, 1875, three years ago, to revise the Constitution and By-Laws of the Association.

The report was read to the meeting. It proposed to transform the National Association into a body of delegates, allowing to each city or State organization one delegate for each ten members in good standing in such organization, and virtually depriving those now enrolled as members on their written application and who live too remote from towns and cities to join local organizations, of any rights as members unless duly elected as delegates. It also proposed to make *any delegate*, accredited by a local association and accepted as a delegate, a member of the National Association—[whether he was a survivor of the Mexican war, honorably discharged or not?] This provision was shrewdly designed to cover his own case, as Mr. Tidball, if he ever served in the Mexican war at all, has studiously avoided complying with the Constitution, in applying for membership in the National Association which involves a statement of his military record. His presence heretofore has simply been tolerated in the meetings out of respect to the body who gave him written credentials under an erroneous impression that the Association was a representative body.

A series of by-laws provided that the Treasurer shall safely keep all funds of the Association, pay them out by order of the Association, render a true and accurate

account thereof annually, or oftener, at the will of the Association; give bonds for the faithful performance of his duty, and turn over all balances, books, and vouchers in his possession to his successor. There was nothing said, however, in this wise production of an astute "lawyer" about how the money was to be raised to maintain the organization.

The Secretary was to keep a faithful record of all proceedings in a book for that purpose; file all letters and communications received, account for all moneys received and expended by him, and it was proposed that he should turn over to his successor in office all *moneys, books files, and other papers in his possession*. His books, letters, rolls, and files of all papers in the office or hands of the Secretary shall be the property of the Association, and shall be open to the inspection, and for the information, of every veteran of the Mexican war who belongs to any State or other organization."

This appears like a direct proposition to rob the Secretary of his *private memoranda*, derived from a study of the history of the several regiments &c., serving in the Mexican war, by which he expects to make himself useful to such of his comrades as may see proper to engage his services in presenting their claims, in the event of the bill becoming a law. The Secretary has, of course, always intended to give everything properly belonging to the Association to his successor; but he would never consent to yield his private property to an *outsider, a claim agent*, who is incapable of properly preparing a case without robbing the Secretary or some other person of the fruits of his industry. There is nothing in the constitution of the National Association, *nor was there any law* to prevent the Secretary from preparing, as he did before this thing was introduced, a correct history of every member, derived from his own written statement and the Secretary's careful study of the subject. He had proper authority for making this memoranda for the purpose indicated, and the National Association never contemplated in its by laws that the Secretary should compile statistics, study laws and regulations for the benefit of claim agents "who belong to other organizations" The proposition of Mr. Tidball made no provision for compensating the Secretary for his labor, nor even providing an office as a shelter for the books and papers to be kept open for public inspection.

A committee of finance was to be appointed annually to audit the books of the Secretary and Treasurer, but no power was vested in them or any person to provide means for carrying on the business of the Association.

Mr. Tidball failed to state that ever since and prior to the time the committee was appointed to revise the Constitution, he had been incessantly working to undermine and break down the National Association; that he had on a regular "rule or ruin" plan endeavored to withdraw the members from New York and New Jersey from the body at Philadelphia and tried to organize an antagonistic body at Baltimore in February, 1877, but that failing to obtain a corporal's guard of adherents, and not having the means to "hire a hall," for his purposes, concluded to come over to the regular meeting in Washington and fire off his spleen "from interior lines." His object, however, was transparent to almost every member present. The only question that exercised the members in attendance was how to tide over the difficulty without an appearance to the public of discord—which might prejudice the cause that everybody in the meeting had at heart, except Tidball and his small gang of followers, who are not members of the National Association.

Without entering into a discussion of these facts, which would have been playing into the hands of the disturbers, and probably resulted in turbulent proceedings, a "question of consideration" was raised. The point was made by Comrade Montis that no alteration or amendment to the Constitution could be made, until after due notice to the Association of the proposed alteration or amendment, under Article VII.

To avoid discussion, a motion for a recess of one hour was made and carried.

After the recess the President decided that the point raised by Comrade Montis was well taken, and the proposed amendments would have to go over to the next meeting.

An appeal was taken, and on a division the chair was sustained by a vote of 74 to 12. More than one of those who voted with the minority stated afterwards that they would have voted against the adoption of the report!\*

\*Following is the text of Mr. Tidball's proposition:

The committee appointed at a previous meeting to revise the constitution and by-laws of this association, respectfully recommend that the Constitution be amended so as to read as follows:

This overwhelming defeat of the malcontents staggered them somewhat, but the irrepressible Tidball rallied once more with a long-winded but somewhat incoherent series of resolutions, providing that the fee for collecting a pension shall be ten dollars, apparently ignorant of the fact that the Congress of the United States and the Commissioner of Pensions regulated that matter. The second, disposed of one-half of the fee collected by the attorney for his services, as a monumental fund. The third, appointed one or more persons in each State and Territory to act as attorneys for individual members (the individual not having any discretion in this matter affecting his own interests.) The fourth, provided that the person selected by the Association to "collect the fee from the pensioner" should pay one half of the same to the treasurer in each State, showing this professed lawyer's utter ignorance of the pension laws of the United States, which provided, at the time he offered his resolutions, that the Pension Office should deduct the fee from the pensioner's first payment, and transmit the same to the attorney of record, after deducting his commissions provided by law. The fifth provided that the treasurer in each State "shall receive and safely keep all moneys received from the pension agents of this Association, and shall give sufficient bonds when so required." The sixth and seventh provided that one-half of the money earned by claim agents should be expended in building monuments to the memory of those who fell in Mexico.

#### CONSTITUTION.

[Articles I, II, and III are the same as printed on page 2.]

ART. IV. The officers of the Association shall be a president, two vice-presidents, a treasurer, a secretary, and a marshal; and also one vice-president, one assistant treasurer, and one assistant secretary from each State, territory, the army, the navy, and the District of Columbia, and such other officers as may be provided by the by-laws.

ART. V. The president, vice-president, treasurer, secretary, and marshal shall be chosen annually by ballot, by a majority of the members present at the annual meeting of the Association, and shall continue in office until the next annual meeting, and until their successors shall be elected.

ART. VI. The additional vice-presidents and the assistant treasurers and secretaries shall be selected at the annual meeting of the Association, by the respective delegations of the State and other organizations they are chosen to represent; and in case any State or other organization shall not be represented at any such meeting, the officers of the preceding year shall be re-appointed.

ART. VII. All members in good standing in State and other organizations, shall be entitled to represent their respective organizations in this Association as delegates, and shall become members of the National Association when duly accredited and accepted as such delegates; and each of such organizations shall be entitled to one delegate for every ten members in good standing in such organizations.

ART. VIII. No alteration or amendment shall be made to this Constitution, unless the same shall have been proposed in writing by three members at an annual meeting, and sustained by a vote of two-thirds of the members present, after due notice to the Association of the proposed alterations or amendments.

And the committee further recommend that the by-laws be amended so as to read as follows:

#### BY-LAWS.

1. The duties of the officers of this Association shall be such as usually devolve upon officers of similar associations.

2. The president shall preside at all meetings of the Association, when present, and in his absence the vice-president shall preside, and in the absence of both these officers such other vice-president shall preside as may be selected by the Association.

3. The treasurer shall keep safely all funds of the Association, pay them out by order of the Association, render a true and accurate account thereof annually, or oftener at the will of the Association, give bonds for the faithful performance of his duties when required by the Association, and turn over all balances, books and vouchers in his possession to his successor in office.

4. The secretary shall keep a faithful and correct record of all the proceedings of the Association, in a book for that purpose, file all letters and communications received on behalf of the Association, account for all moneys received and expended by him for or on behalf of the Association, and turn over to his successor in office all moneys, books, files, and other papers in his possession.

5. The books, letters, rolls, and files of all papers in the office or hands of the secretary, shall be the property of the Association, and shall be open to the inspection and for the information of every veteran of the Mexican war, who belongs to any State or other organization.

6. The additional vice-presidents shall be the principal representatives of the National Association in the State and other organizations to which they respectively belong, and shall have general supervision of all matters pertaining to the welfare of the National Association.

7. The assistant treasurers shall receive all funds created and collected for the use and benefit of the National Association, by the organization to which they respectively belong, and hold them subject to the order of the National Association; and shall give sufficient bonds when so required.

8. The assistant secretaries shall assist the secretary in the discharge of his official duties, and shall perform such other labors as may be required by or on behalf of the State or other organizations which they respectively represent.

9. There shall be a committee of finance, consisting of three members, who shall be appointed annually by the president, to audit the accounts of the treasurer and secretary, and to perform such other duties as may be assigned to them by the Association.

10. The business of the Association shall be conducted in accordance with the usages of legislative bodies in this country.

11. These by-laws may be altered or amended at any annual meeting of the Association by a vote of two thirds of the members present at such meeting.

All of which is respectfully submitted,

The whole series showed plainly that their author was blinded by passion, ignorant of the laws of the United States in such cases, and that his judgment—if he ever had any—was utterly paralyzed. At the meeting in Philadelphia the subject of erecting monuments was disposed of by an intelligent committee appointed expressly to consider the question, whose report was adopted and published as follows:

"That the subject is one of *national* character, and that the expense of erecting such monuments should be *at the cost of the United States Government*. That a special committee be appointed to devise a suitable plan and design, which is to be submitted through the President, to the several State organizations for their approval, and if such plan is accepted, concerted action be taken to bring the matter to the attention of Congress."

It was not considered good judgment to enter into a discussion on a subject that had been settled as above by the Association, and a motion was promptly carried to refer all resolutions to a committee for report.

[NOTE.—The reason offered by the secretary for not reporting Mr. W. L. Tidball's resolutions *in extenso* are: that said Tidball has no *status* in the National Association which the secretary feels bound to respect, and he (Tidball) wears a badge which is a *counterfeit* of the insignia adopted by the National Association. A correct synopsis of his propositions is, however, reported as a part of the history of the meeting, because no formal protest has hitherto been made against him, or any person professing friendly interest in the cause, who desired to attend and participate in the annual reunions. Mr. Tidball has presumed on this liberty for several years since he commenced plotting for the overthrow of the association, and has by his conduct endeavored to spoil the harmony and good feeling which every respectable member desires to see prevail at our annual gatherings. On the evening prior to the last meeting the officers and many members of the Baltimore association, with the most laudable intentions, called upon the secretary and expressed a desire to restore amicable relations between all parties, to which proposition the secretary responded that he would, if they desired it, accompany them in their visit to Tidball, and cheerfully humble himself, if they thought it necessary, in any way becoming a man, for the sake of harmony in the meetings; but his burly adversary, it subsequently transpired, preferred non intercourse, feeling confident of carrying out his plan of action against the secretary when the association met.—A. M. K.]

Capt. James F. Milligan offered the following resolution, which, with others, was referred to the Committee on Resolutions, and subsequently adopted, to wit:

#### PERPETUATING THE ORGANIZATION, &c.

*Resolved*, That a committee of one member from each State and territory be appointed by the Chair to arrange, perfect, and bring into practical operation the best and most appropriate mode of perpetuating the history of the Mexican war and the National Veteran Association.

The President appointed the following members of the National Association on said committee:

*Arkansas*—Albert Pike, chairman. *Alabama*—H. Ray Myers. *California*, A. M. Kenaday. *Colorado*—S. N. Hoyt. *Connecticut*—Levi Woodhouse. *Delaware*—George Hodges. *Florida*—Ira. S. Rouse. *Georgia*—George S. Fisher. *Illinois*—R. S. Goodell. *Indiana*—Edward Lunder. *Iowa*—Robert F. Bower. *Kansas*—R. B. Mitchell. *Kentucky*—F. M. Schell. *Louisiana*—G. Mason Graham. *Maine*—F. B. Ladd. *Maryland*—Gen. W. H. Emory. *Massachusetts*—E. A. Paul. *Michigan*—A. S. Williams. *M. C.* *Minnesota*—C. DeMontreville. *Mississippi*—J. B. Deason. *Missouri*—Douglas Dale. *N. braska*—Aniva Cobb. *Nevada*—W. Frank Stewart. *New Hampshire*—George Bowers. *New Jersey*—Charles Bowers. *New York*—Ward B. Barnett. *North Carolina*—O. K. Smith. *Ohio*—T. L. Young. *Oregon*—James Tilton. *Pennsylvania*—P. H. Allabach. *Rhode Island*—Nelson Viall. *South Carolina*—M. L. Boutham. *Tennessee*—Baltie Peyton. *Texas*—S. B. Mixey. *U. S. S.* *Vermont*—C. L. Whitman. *Virginia*—J. F. Milligan. *West Virginia*—G. A. Porterfield. *Wisconsin*—S. W. Eastman. *Arizona*—W. H. Tonge. *Dakota*—Chas. T. Campbell. *Idaho*—G. W. Paul. *Montana*—Hiram Root. *New Mexico*—J. H. Stewart. *Utah*—Samuel E. Lawyer. *Washington*—John Whitebread. *Wyoming*—E. L. Green. *District of Columbia*—T. T. Crittenden. *Indian Territory*—Douglas L. Cooper.

#### WORK FOR UNEMPLOYED VETERANS.

Captain J. F. Milligan also submitted the following:

*Resolved*, That the President of the United States, as a matter of justice to the

surviving veterans of the Mexican war, seeking to eke out their earthly existence by their labor, be earnestly requested by the National Association here assembled, to issue an order to the various Departments of the Government having supervision of arsenals, foundries, navy yards, and other branches of the public service, to give employment to the surviving veterans, and secure for them preference over laborers selected for party purposes, merely,—character and efficiency to be considered in all cases.

*Resolved*, That the Secretary be directed to send a copy of this resolution to his Excellency, the President of the United States.

THANKS TO HON. G. W. HEWITT, OF ALABAMA.

Comrade J. Mollere submitted the following :

*Resolved*, That the thanks of this Association are hereby tendered to Hon. Goldsmith W. Hewitt, of Alabama, to whom our petition was assigned for investigation by the House Committee of Pensions, for the very able report now on the calendar of the House of Representatives, in favor of granting pensions to the survivors of the Mexican war.

THANKS TO THE MARYLAND ASSOCIATION.

Captain W. B. Parisen submitted the following :

*Resolved*, That the thanks of the members from the several States and Territories here assembled, are hereby gratefully tendered to the Maryland Association and the citizens of Baltimore, for the beautiful Assembly Hall so tastefully furnished and decorated for our accommodation, and the generous hospitality and courtesy extended to all who have participated in our proceedings.

DELEGATION OF MEMBERS TO VISIT WASHINGTON.

On motion, of Gen. E. R. Biles, it was

*Resolved*, That the President select a delegation of the members to proceed to the city of Washington after adjournment, citizens of the several States and Territories, and solicit from the Representatives and Senators of their respective States speedy action upon the bill reported by the Pension Committee of the House.

The committee was subsequently made up and met on Tuesday, February 26th, at General Denver's office in Washington, and all present proceeded to the Capitol, where pleasant interviews were had with a number of Senators. It was thought prudent, however, as the bill was reported by the Pension Committee of the House, to not make any formal call on the Representatives, but patiently wait for their verdict. The committee consisted of—

General J. W. Denver, chairman. United States army—General William H. Emory, Colonel Alexander Montgomery. United States navy—Rear-Admiral F. Stanly, Dr. William Maxwell Wood, Surgeon-General (retired) Arkansas—General Albert Pike. Alabama—Colonel H. V. Hebb, Colonel H. Ray Myers. California—General J. A. Sutter, M. Suerman, A. M. Kenaday (secretary). Colorado—Colonel A. C. Boone, Captain S. N. Hoyt. Connecticut—Levi Woodhouse, esq., Captain Nelson Taylor. District of Columbia—General T. T. Crittenden, S. V. Niles, esq. Delaware—George Hodges. J. W. C. Luke. Florida—General B. D. Fry, Ira S. Rouse esq. Georgia—Colonel George S. Fisher. General W. S. Walker. Illinois—General John A. Logan, R. E. Goodell, esq. Indiana—General John Love, General H. S. Lane. Iowa—General Josiah Given, General J. W. Griffiths. Kansas—General R. B. Mitchell, Major I. E. Eaton. Kentucky—Captain E. M. Stone, F. M. Schell. Louisiana—General G. Mason Graham, J. Mollere. Maine—Phineas M. Jeffards, Samuel Cone. Maryland—Colonel J. H. Ruddach, Marshal J. T. Gray, J. R. Gould, esq. Massachusetts—Colonel E. A. Paul, Major H. A. McGlenan. Michigan—General A. S. Williams, D. McConnell. Minnesota—Dr. C. DeMontreville, A. R. French. Mississippi—Judge J. B. Deason, W. T. Cole. Missouri—General T. J. Bartholow, D. Dale, esq. Nebraska—Hon. Amasa Cobb, David Boyd. Nevada—Colonel W. W. McCoy, Hon. B. F. Stewart, Josiah Horn. New Hampshire—General T. P. Pierce, Colonel T. Y. Field. New Jersey—C. F. Bowers, J. E. Nuttmann, F. D. Clark. New York—General W. B. Burnett, Captain W. B. Parisen, Captain J. H. Merrimon, William Colligan, esq. North Carolina—O. R. Smith, Colonel E. Cantwell. Ohio—M. D. Montis, Captain McCann. Oregon—General J. Tilton. Pennsylvania—General W. W. H. Davis, General William Brindle, General E. R. Biles, Colonel R. Klotz. South Carolina—General M. L. Bonham, General R. G. M. Dunovant, Colonel W.

B. Stanley. Tennessee—General Balie Peyton, B. F. Harrison. Texas—General D. S. Ford, Colonel L. Fitzhugh, General G. H. Giddings. Virginia—Major P. D. Sutton, Captain J. F. Milligan. West Virginia—Dr. J. H. Hunter, M. L. Dorne, esq. Wisconsin—A. A. Meredith, Louis Nettan, esq. Wyoming—Colonel E. M. Greene. Utah—J. H. C. Kipp, esq. Idaho—John Siers, esq. Rhode Island—General Nelson Viall. Vermont—C. L. Whitman, H. H. Crossman, Charles Blanchard. Washington Territory—Robert Wallace.

#### ELECTION OF OFFICERS OF THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION.

On motion of M. D. Montis, Esq., the rules were suspended and the association proceeded to the election of officers for the ensuing year.

L. J. Beeler, Esq., moved that Gen. J. W. Denver be re-elected president by acclamation, which was carried with enthusiastic applause. [Gen. Denver acknowledged the compliment in appropriate remarks.]

M. D. Montis nominated Gen. John Love, of Indiana, for 1st vice-president. Col. Robt. Klotz seconded the nomination, and quoted the homely proverb that "it is bad policy to swap horses while crossing a stream." Gen. Love was elected by acclamation, as were also all the old officers, whose names will be found published on page 3 in the list.

#### VICE-PRESIDENTS AND COUNCIL OF ADMINISTRATION.

The president remarked that it had been the custom heretofore for members residing in the several States who were in attendance at the annual meeting to select the representatives of the National Association for their respective localities, and unless a change was thus suggested, the old vice-presidents, &c., would be considered as re-elected. He therefore invited nominations to be sent to the secretary's desk. [The list of V. P. and C. of A., as handed to the secretary, will be found reported on page 3, excepting two or three names of parties who have not yet properly identified themselves with the association, and are consequently not qualified to supersede regular members in these honorary positions.]

#### THANKS TO THE OFFICERS.

Gen. T. J. Bartholow, of St. Louis, Mo., offered the following, which passed by acclamation:

*Resolved*, That the thanks of the association are eminently due, and are hereby unanimously tendered to the officers thereof, for past services, which are fully appreciated, and which has just been recognized by their unanimous re-election.

#### THE NEXT ANNUAL MEETING—BALTIMORE SELECTED AGAIN FOR FEB. 22, 1879.

Capt. Milligan, moved that Norfolk, Va., be selected as the next place of meeting of the National Association.

The proposal met with considerable favor, but the members generally felt so well pleased with their reception in Baltimore, that an invitation extended by several of the officers of the Maryland association to repeat their visit was unanimously accepted.

#### ORATOR OF THE DAY.

The president appointed Col. Joseph H. Ruddach, D. G. Murray, Esq., of Baltimore, and Secretary Kenaday, a committee to select the orator of the day for next meeting.

On motion, the meeting took a recess till 8 o'clock p. m.

#### EVENING SESSION.

At the hour appointed, the vast hall was filled with a brilliant audience of ladies and gentlemen, who had been invited by the Committee of Arrangements, to hear the orator of the day, Gen. W. W. H. DAVIS, of Doylestown, Pa., who had kindly consented, on very short notice, to address them. The decorations of the hall looked even more beautiful by gaslight, being now blen led with the elegant apparel and bright eyes of lovely women, and the whole enlivened by martial strains from

the Fort McHenry band, consisting of twenty-one pieces, under the able leadership of Prof. Ferrari. The association are indebted to Maj. Gen. Wm. Barry, commanding at Fort McHenry, who detailed this excellent band for the entertainment of his old companions-in-arms and their guests on this occasion. The seats on the rostrum were occupied by president Denver, vice-president Love, treasurer Niles, Marshal Biles, Gen. Graham, Gen. Emory, Capt. John A. Sutter, Governor Bonham, Col. Stanley, Col. Robt. Klotz, the Orator (Gen. Davis), and others.

The secretary read letters from the Hon. Wm. M. Evarts, Secretary of State, and Hon. Charles Devens, Attorney General, returning thanks for invitations received, but expressing regrets for their inability to be present.

President Denver then introduced to the audience comrade W. W. H. DAVIS, Captain in the Massachusetts volunteers in Mexico, and Division commander of Pennsylvania volunteers in late war, as the orator of the occasion.

Gen. Davis bowed his acknowledgment to the enthusiastic greeting of his audience. His voice was musical, and his enunciation very clear and distinct. He spoke without notes. His subject was

### “THE HALLS OF THE MONTEZUMAS.”

After a few words of preliminary remarks, General Davis commenced by saying that “the history of the Montezumas reads like a tale of the Arabian Nights, while, to the average reader, Mexico, at the present day, is almost a fabled-land.” He then described the physical formation of the country—said it is divided into three great benches or plateaus; has all the climates of the world upon the same parallel, with the production of nearly every zone upon the same hill-side. In this connection he mentioned a fact not generally known—that there is no twilight upon the elevated table land, and it is dark almost as soon as the sun has gone down. While the country of the Montezumas occupied only a small portion of the present Mexico, it was so situated that it had every variety of climate, soil, and production. The orator now briefly noticed the races, that in turn, settled in Mexico—all migrating from the unknown regions of the distant north, beginning with the Toltecs, which he denominated “the true fountain of Aztec civilization.” The Aztecs built their capital on some sands in lake Texcoco, the site of the present city of Mexico. He then passed to the political, religious, and social institutions of the Aztecs, who had become a consolidated people, under the first Montezuma, about the middle of the fifteenth century. The government was an elective monarchy; it had its well defined laws and judges independent of the crown. Intemperance was a crime against society, and the defaulter was reduced to slavery; they had one Supreme Being and several inferior deities, and the dead passed immediately into the presence of the sun. The Aztecs had an organized priesthood, which had charge of both religion and education. They had schools and colleges, and their knowledge of astronomy was astonishing. They paid great attention to agriculture, and were skilled in the mechanic arts, and worked in feathers, gold, and other metals, and in precious stones. Their political system was stern and severe, and the profession of arms was the chief aim of their institutions. They were strict in parental discipline, and the women joined the men in all social festivities and entertainments.

The orator now introduced Hernando Cortes, the renowned conqueror of Mexico, upon the scene. Landing upon the coast north of Vera Cruz, he marched for the conquest of this powerful people, with a small band of 400 Spaniards and a few hundred Indian allies. The various stages of this hazardous march were pictured. It was told how he climbed the rugged mountains to the broad table-lands above, near the present city of Jalapa, and conquered the powerful State of Tlascalla, which he induced to become his allies. His march then to Cholula the Aztec Mecca—on invitation of the inhabitants, who organized a conspiracy to destroy Cortes and his followers. Their punishment was merited and severe. The great pyramid of Cholula, which the orator had visited, was described, as well as the fine view from its top. The course of Cortes and his little band was now traced across the great plateau of Puebla to the Cordilleras; over these mountains, between its two snowy peaks, and down their slopes into the famed valley of Mexico, marching among a busy and thriving population, and through a highly cultivated country. The orator described the impression the first glimpse of this beautiful valley made upon him as he viewed it from the ranks

of the American army as it crossed the Cordilleras; and he pronounced the view to be finer than the Rhine, with its legendary castles, and finer than the Arno with the sky of Italy over it, etc. The march of the Spaniards to the causeway that was built up through the lake to the city, their entrance upon it, their meeting with the Aztec monarch, and their reception, and their entry into the Aztec Capitol—calling it “a city of rude magnificence”—the mode of life of the great Montezuma, and the princely palace that he inhabited, etc., etc., etc.—followed by a brief mention of the conduct of Cortez, while he occupied the city, the growing hostility between the races, which culminated into open war, which, after a desperate and bloody struggle, led to the expulsion of the Spaniards on what is known in history as *Noche Triste*, or “The Melancholy Night.”

Cortez and his little army of Spaniards and Indian allies were now introduced to the audience in a new role—that of besiegers of the Aztec capital. When driven from the city with heavy loss, Cortez took shelter with the remnant of his force in the country of his faithful Tlascallans. Here he recruited his strength, and made what preparation he could for his proposed attack on the Aztec capital. Among other features was the construction of thirteen brigantines, which were conveyed in sections across the mountains by the Indians and launched upon the lake. They were followed by Cortes and his army, and, after everything was in readiness, he laid siege to the city by land and water. It lasted three months. The Aztecs fought with great stubbornness, and Cortez could only overcome their defense by destroying every building as they advanced, and filling up the canals with the rubbish. Seven-eighths of the city was destroyed, and some two hundred thousand of the inhabitants perished. The orator presented the two central figures in this bloody drama, Cortez and Montezuma, and gave their characteristics in a few sentences.

General Davis concluded his address with the following reference to

#### THE CONQUEST OF MEXICO BY THE AMERICAN ARMY:

He said—

Thus, my comrades, I have drawn a brief pen-picture of the Conquest of the Montezumas by Hernando Cortez; but the second conquest of Mexico by the American Army, under Scott and Taylor, three and a quarter centuries later, and in which you bore honorable part, is no less renowned. Your courage in the field, your patience on the march, and your forbearance in the hour of victory—the brightest jewel in a soldier’s coronet—all surpassed the Spaniard’s. Your triumphs were not dimmed by unnecessary cruelty; because your great captains conducted the war from a civilized standpoint.

If time would permit, it would be a most pleasing office to trace your conquering legions from Palo Alto to the field of Buena Vista, and from the walls of Vera Cruz to the gareta of Belen. How like a story of the olden times seem the record of the “Army of Invasion” after the lapse of a third of a century. Follow me a moment, comrades, while I recall deeds that stir the blood in older veins than ours. Go back with me to the spring morning 31 years ago, when the stars and stripes were planted on the beach below Vera Cruz; and without my prompting, you recall in an instant—the investment, the bombardment, the preparation for assault, and the surrender. Gathering up your victorious columns, you push through the tangled tropical vegetation for the Mexican capital. You brush the enemy away from the National Bridge, and after a hard and bloody struggle, scaled the heights of Cerro Gordo, and the beautiful city of Jalapa is yours. After a brief rest your serried ranks are again closed up and in motion. You climb the sierras of the table land above, in the track of Cortez, cross the great plain, and Puebla, the second city in the country, is in your possession. Your great Commander now prepares his victorious but more than decimated battalions for the supreme effort. You will never forget the day you marched from Puebla for the valley of Mexico; your crossing the great Cordilleras, and your first view of, and descent into, that unsurpassed valley. Then follow the great struggles for the Mexican capital, where the Anglo-American meets the degenerate Latin and Aztec races in deadly conflict at Cherubusco, Contreras, El Molina del Rey, Chapultepec, and the garita of Belen. The stars and stripes now float over the “Halls of the Montezumas,”

and the victory is won. Your brothers in the "Army of Occupation" bore equally well their part, and, at Palo Alto, Resaca, Monterey, and at La Angostura, there they stood in deadly array 31 years ago this very day, emulated your deeds. Let the living and the dead of both armies, in your flowing bowls be fondly remembered. And, my comrades, what was the fruit of that war? You gained for your country almost an empire, richer by far than the Golden Fleece, and whose shore upon the Pacific Sea, will, in time, control the commerce of the East, and we are happy in having with us to-day the gallant gentleman [Capt. John A. Sutter] who first exposed to view the wealth of our modern Ophir. Notwithstanding what your sufferings and courage gave to the country, the American Congress to-day hesitates to recognize the 6,000 survivors with the mere pittance of \$8 per month.

My comrades, how old Father Time has thinned our ranks! He has been more destructive than the enemy. Which of you can point to the living comrade who stood at your elbow in the battle and on the march? The death roll since the war closed, numbers nearly all who survived the conflict of arms. Among the names enbalmed in history, are those of Scott, Taylor, Quitman, Duncan, Ransom, Twiggs, and a host of other gallant spirits who have "fought their last battle," and gone to their rest. Maryland has her dead, whom she delights to honor. I call to mind the gallant Watson, whose placid countenance looks down upon us this evening, and whose soul is with the just, we trust, who died as soldiers love to die--on the field of battle; and Ringgold, who met his death by the rolling Rio Grande while proving the efficiency of his arm of the service. Maryland should not forget the brave Major Washington, who held with his battery the Pass of La Angostura, the key to the field of Buena Vista, and gave us the victory.

But time advances, and I must close. As soldiers you deserve well of your country, which should not forget your services: as citizens, you deserve well of your fellows, and as Christians, I commend you to the Captain of Salvation.

The audience manifested their great satisfaction with hearty demonstrations of applause, and the officers on the platform congratulated General Davis on his felicitous delivery and well-applied remarks. The Secretary regrets that he can not give a more elaborate report of the oration, which abounded with happy thoughts eloquently expressed.

General Davis was the recipient of a handsome bouquet of flowers presented by a beautiful young lady, the daughter of Comrade George A. Freeburger, "one of twenty-three survivors who went to Mexico from Maryland."

General John Love, first Vice President, submitted the following resolution, which passed by acclamation:

*Resolved*, That the officers and members of the National Association of Mexican veterans return their heartfelt thanks to Comrade W. W. H. Davis for so ably filling the gap in the line made vacant by the failure of Comrade Green Clay Smith to attend.

#### GOVERNOR MILLEDGE L. BONHAM.

President Denver then introduced to the meeting his regimental commander in Mexico, Col. Milledge L. Bonham, of the old 12th Infantry, who subsequently served in the 35th and 36th Congresses from South Carolina, and afterwards as Governor of that State. He was cordially greeted by the audience and made a graceful address, prefacing his remarks by expressing his hesitancy in speaking at all after the eloquent address of General Davis. He said his heart beat in unison with those present and he hoped it would not be long before the Government would say to the soldiers of Mexico "Well done, good and faithful servants!" and place the names of the survivors with those of the Revolution and the war of 1812 on the pension rolls. No people can be great who fail to reward those who risk their lives in the common cause on the battle field. Comrades, said the speaker, your Association extends all over this great land from the Atlantic to the Pacific, and I rejoice to once more stand among you, representing all sections here to-night and grasp the hand of friendship with men who served with me in Mexico, and he trusted that this bond of fellowship may continue while we live. The speaker paid a compliment to the ladies who had lent their presence to make the evening pleasant and referred to the valiant deeds of woman as recorded in history: with the smiles and approval of the ladies there is no telling what we may accomplish. The speaker said the brilliant ornamentations of the hall he had seldom seen surpassed on any occasion. The speaker closed with his thanks to the Maryland

Mexican Veterans' Association, who had done so much towards the pleasure and entertainment of their visitors.

General John Love briefly addressed the audience and concluded by saying the hour for parting had arrived, which would be sad indeed were it not for the fact that comrades would again have the pleasure of seeing the happy faces before them, he hoped, one year hence. He therefore moved to adjourn.

President Denver, in putting the question, took the occasion to bid an affectionate good-bye to one and all, and the Association adjourned, to meet again in Baltimore, on the 22d February, 1879.

## APPENDIX.

THE SECRETARY RISES TO A "QUESTION OF PRIVILEGE."

In all deliberative bodies it has been customary to allow a member assailed, either through the public press or on the floor, to rise to a "question of privilege," and vindicate his conduct by personal explanation. The Secretary has had so much business to do for the Association heretofore, that he could not find time to defend himself against the aspersion of his adversaries. He now asks the indulgence of members while he gives a retrospective view of the work performed by him, and refers to circumstances that will aid in explaining the *animus* of his traducers, and refuting their charges.

Every comrade who has watched the progress of our movement since the spring of 1873, is familiar—if he has given the subject any consideration—with the difficulties surrounding my position. I started out, with no commissariat behind me, to drum up the survivors of the Army of Mexico, scattered all over the continent of America. It was not a boy's work, and not every man of my age would have devoted himself to the task when his family had a right to the few remaining years of his existence.

But the convention of survivors which assembled at Washington City on the 15th of January, 1874, showed that the time was ripe for the proposition, not only in the general character of the men who attended, but in the enthusiasm with which they espoused the objects set forth in the call. The organization of the National Association was effected, though it must be confessed very crudely. I was called upon to perform the arduous duties of the Secretary, and left to my own resources and fertility of invention to fulfill them. I accepted the task, (though not without protest, for I distrusted my abilities,) and have continued to discharge them to this day.

The manner of conducting the business details of my office has been the target of severe criticism by persons who had nothing to do with the association but to find fault, and at our last meeting I added to my Annual Report the following retrospective view of the past work, to which objection was made by an individual present, and I concluded to lay it before the members in an appendix to the regular proceedings, (together with some other matter pertinent to the subject,) to wit:

The Convention of January 15, 1874, elected five Secretaries, and designated me as "First Secretary" for duty at headquarters in Washington. I earnestly begged to be excused from serving—my ambition at the time having been sufficiently gratified with the success attending our exertions during the previous year in getting the convention together; but the declination was refused, and by such unanimity, that I had no recourse but to accept the task and devote my humble abilities to the labor before me.

After the adjournment of the Convention an examination of its proceedings showed that no system of dividing the labors of the Secretaries had been provided for in the organic act, and one of those selected as a Secretary suggested to me the drafting of a plan of work, which I accordingly prepared, submitting the draft *informally*—(distinctly marked “unofficial”)—to each of the Secretaries. It proposed equal geographical divisions of the States and Territories, one to be assigned to each Secretary, and quarterly reports to the First Secretary at Washington. The several answers to this plan developed the fact that three of the gentlemen appointed by the Convention could not spare the time and expense (for there was no system of raising revenue provided) from their daily avocations. The remaining two could not agree upon any practical division of the labor, and I was thus left to work on my own resources, or abandon the task imposed upon me by the founders of the Association.

In this dilemma I wrote to Gen. Cadwalader, at Philadelphia, who was elected President of the proposed association, who advised me to do the best I could under the circumstances, and authorized me to confer with Gen. Denver, then 1st Vice President, whenever I needed counsel or advice. Thenceforward I conferred with the Chief Executive Officer of the Association at headquarters in all matters of importance, and in all cases have obeyed, in my subordinate position, any instructions or suggestions he saw proper to make.

The Association having provided no method of raising money, as before stated, to pay the expenses of printing and postage involved, with Gen. Denver's acquiescence I published 4,000 copies of the proceedings of that year, and 17,000 circulars which were sent to all quarters of the country. Whenever I could learn the postoffice address of a Mexican veteran, through the various channels of information centered at Washington, I sent these pamphlets and circulars, and when the next Convention assembled I had collected the names of 4,061 survivors—including 2,549 whose military services in Mexico were stated. The amount received in donations and as a return for the pamphlet fell considerably short of the actual outlay of money, but I felt highly gratified at finding the Convention endorsed by so many of the survivors.

At the second annual meeting a Finance Committee was appointed to devise some plan of assessment of the States. The committee issued a circular setting forth the necessity of raising funds to defray expenses and “compensate the Secretary” in some measure for the labor required of him. The amount received under this call by the Treasurer was duly reported at the next meeting. It is sufficient to say that the committee found their plan impracticable, and as the proceedings had to be published, I again, rather than abandon the cause, assumed the risk of reimbursement by personal donations, much to my distaste and inconvenience.

About this period of our history as an Association, I sought by correspondence with the large hearted and public spirited officers of the great railroad lines to obtain free passes for our members from their homes to the Centennial meeting in Philadelphia, which had been agreed upon at the outset. To make such a favor practicable, it was absolutely necessary to issue a badge to distinguish “members” of the Association from mere pretenders, who would seek to impose upon the railroad companies as well as the Association. I found in the record of proceedings that a *design* for a badge as the insignia of membership had been adopted, and a committee appointed consisting of the President, Secretary, and “First Assistant Secretary,” to have the supervision of the subject. Two of this committee were personal realities; but the only “assistant” the Secretary had any knowledge of in the performance of his labors at headquarters consisted of his own family and such clerical aid as he employed and paid for out of his own resources. The committee ascertained at what cost the intentions of the Association could be complied with. An estimate submitted to the committee from the authorities at the U. S. mint showed that \$1.05 for each medal would be the actual cost. It was then agreed to furnish them to members at \$2 each—leaving the residue (95 cents) to cover cost of incidental expenses. *The Secretary was to take the entire labor upon himself and the entire risk of reimbursement.*

This unpromising method of raising means to defray the contingent expenses of the Association turned out, however, to be the only feasible plan which had ever presented itself. I had previously been deluded with the idea that the announcement of my willingness to act as a “claim agent” would probably bring in sufficient patronage from comrades (and their friends, perhaps,) to enable me to carry on the work of my office from legal fees; but this glittering idea resulted in adding vastly to my labors and expenses with no remuneration worth speaking of, thus far. I have learned by dear experience, what older claim agents knew before, that the class of claims which fell to my lot—namely, “Old war claims,” Bounty Land and Invalid Pensions, the just debts of the Government to her old defenders—are virtually *repudiated* by the rulings of the Departments under legislation having in

view the "credit of the country" in the estimation of that class of our fellow-citizens who speculate in stocks, bonds, gold and silver.

Another fruit growing out of this experiment was the severe criticism of *rival aspirants in this direction* who perhaps discovered a mercenary motive in all my actions. The impression prevails to some extent that I have a *monopoly of all the names of survivors*. I know, and have known all along, to the contrary. In every county and State canvassers for claim agents have been collecting the names and the records of Mexican veterans, and carefully noting their statements with a view to prosecuting their claims. I have aided many of these canvassers with circulars and pamphlets, because I knew they would all feel interested in getting the bill passed, which has always been the highest object in view with me. Some of these canvassers have already got their reward in selling their lists to professional claims agents for a cash advance and a contingent share of the fee. In some cases enterprising individuals have sold their information to half a dozen different agents on those terms. A few days ago a gentleman engaged in prosecuting claims at Washington informed me that he had been offered a "complete list" of all the survivors who belonged to the Association, and asked my advice about purchasing. I suggested that he had better make sure that the list had not been already sold to other agents, and that the seller did not retain a copy to be sold to some one else. I have formed no partnership nor made arrangements of any kind with other persons engaged in the prosecution of claims, but will with pleasure give information to any member to enable him to prosecute his own claim if he sees fit, or he can select me as his agent if he chooses. The field was unoccupied when I entered upon the work, and although there are now many contestants for the harvest, I will be the last man to object to a fair rivalry.

\* \* \* \* \*

The foregoing was intended to be a part of my Annual Report, but the tactics of my opponents as shown in our last meeting, elsewhere reported, suggested to me the propriety of laying before the body of the membership in an "appendix" to the proceedings the facts above given, (well understood by the officers of the Association and the Investigating Committee,) in connection with a narrative of incidents that will serve to show the "true inwardness" of the opposition which raises its diminutive head in our annual meetings to the annoyance and disgust of every true friend of the cause. It is becoming monotonous, and on my own responsibility I propose to show it up in rebuttal of their widely circulated slanders.

In May, 1873, the call for a National Convention to be held January 15, 1874, emanated from me under authority of the local Association in Washington, which I was instrumental in organizing for that avowed purpose. The proposition proved to be popular throughout the country. Some six months afterward some enterprising parties called a meeting in New York, (14th September, 1873,) which also provided by resolution for a Convention to be held in Washington on the 8th of January, 1874—one week prior to the one called by me. As the time approached for the meeting the gentleman who acted as Secretary of the "rival" convention wrote to me a *modest* proposition to unite the two calls, and allow the officers of the New York meeting to organize the National Convention as a continuation of the New York affair. My reply was that the duty of the Washington Association would be fulfilled when the assembled delegates were enrolled, the meeting called to order, and a committee on organization appointed; urging him in the same letter in the most friendly spirit to "come over and help us" in full force. The result of that Convention was, after three days' deliberation, the organization of the National Association, and I was selected *contrary to my expressed wish and desire*, for the onerous position I occupy to-day.

A very bitter feeling soon after developed itself in the obtrusive interference with everything I sought to do by two disappointed individuals from New York who had participated in the Convention, namely, Wm. Linn Tidball and Francis D. Clark. I charitably assumed at first that their opposition to me was merely misdirected zeal in the cause, and sought by every means in my power to conciliate them, and for two years, I think, I devoted more time to the whims and caprices of these two malcontents than their importance to the general welfare entitled them to. Clark, who is connected with a club, of which he appears to be the steersman, called the "Territorial Pioneers of California," in New York, availed himself by a sharp trick of my services in getting him the names of many old Californians on this side of the continent to bolster him up in that position, and returned my kindness by writing to the newspapers in California open letters over his signature as a "Secretary of the National Association," unjustly and malignantly criticising my conduct and motives; but as the shallow source was so apparent to every man of common sense, I never before thought it worth the time involved to notice him, especially as I am

pretty well known in California, being one among the pioneer citizens of '49, and still continue a citizen of that State.

Tidball, however, is a more plausible humbug. He has never identified himself with the National Association by filing his record of service in Mexico, in the archives of that body, and I am under no more obligation as the Secretary to notice him than the "Ahkoond of Swat," or any other man. He claims to have "won a commission in the field" during the Mexican war, but it is a *safe bet* that neither he nor his "Dundreary" friend Clark ever heard a gun fired by the enemy in Mexico. But that point would not be raised by me in this connection if they had not attempted to underestimate my services on the same score. The immediate cause of Tidball's feeling against me grew out of an arrogant letter which he, as President of the New York Association, (the composition of which body I have been unable to learn,) addressed to me as Secretary of the National Association, demanding at the mint valuation a large number of the medals which are the *insignia of membership in the latter body*; and when I politely reminded him of their character in this respect, and informed him that any of the members of that Association could obtain one by *sending his record for file in the National Association*, his wrath and indignation became uncontrollable. He attended the meeting of February 22, 1876, where the whole matter was explained, and the Secretary's course was sustained, Mr. Tidball finding himself without any intelligent support. He then vented his spleen by impugning the motives of the Secretary, probably in all sincerity from his standpoint, because mother Nature has so constituted Mr. Tidball that he cannot see an honest impulse outside of his own carcase. Much to my regret I then rebutted his charges in words that have since been construed, through the persuasive eloquence of Tidball, as reflecting upon the Association which Mr. T. claimed to "represent," but his massive intellect failed to comprehend that the National body is composed of *individuals*, and not of "representatives," though he has lately tried to change its character in that respect. Unless it be on the hypothesis that saucy words to a constable is an insult to a whole community, I protest against my antipathy to these fellows, (Tidball and Clark,) being considered an insult to the comrades of the National Association residing in New York or elsewhere, whose good opinion I would gladly aspire to by faithful service in the position they have assigned to me. In consequence of this controversy or misunderstanding, a printed circular, evidently prepared by Tidball, though signed by a "committee" of individuals not members of the National Association to whom I owe no service, was circulated at the Centennial meeting in Philadelphia, with a view, perhaps, to aid Mr. Tidball in his aspirations for the Secretaryship, for which he was a candidate, though unsuccessful. This document strongly insinuated that I was wanting in those essential qualifications for a Secretary, "education and refinement, of courtesy and decency, of modesty," and so forth; that I had cast a slur upon their Association, (which I here repeat, was never my intention,) had insinuated "that Col. Wm. Linn Tidball had never served in Mexico"—[which, at the time, had never been insinuated by me, but he promptly seizes the pretext for saying that—"Col. Wm. Linn Tidball, as a member of an Ohio regiment, *won upon the field* the commission which he held at the close of the war." How he *won* the commission is not stated—possibly at "Draw Poker" or "Brag." There was a Tidball in the service at Matamoros, on the outer edge of Mexico, but the only duty required of the post guard under him was to keep order in the bagnios, fandangoes and monte shops by promptly arresting any disorderly soldier who raised a row after being fleeced. The Tidball referred to was 2d Lieutenant 3d Ohio, but is down in the books as "William D. Tidball." If this is the "field" in which he won his commission, he cannot be blamed for not filing his record of service, when his comrades were sent to the front to fight the enemy.]

This widely circulated pamphlet also intimated that my services in Mexico were rendered at San Pascual, in California, where one of the "blue jackets," whose name was appended to the circular, "came to my relief." Although this is an error of little importance, I have to state for the "truth of history," that I had not the honor of serving at San Pascual, but was on Scott's line in Mexico. The circular also refers to my claiming to represent California in the Convention, and remarks that the "committee are unable to ascertain that it is by any proper authority."

This pamphlet of the Tidball faction has been industriously distributed among the members of the National Association, many of whom have called my attention to it, during the past two years. I thought the personal malignity which bristled all over the document was sufficient defense for me, and the only answer to inquiries in the matter, heretofore published by me, was giving my record of service in Mexico, in connection with my name, when it appeared among "members present" at our meetings, to wit: Private Co. B., Capt. Copeland S. Hunt, 3d La. Infantry; and Sergt. Co. G. 3d Dragoons, Capt. A. M. Duperu. Although I was only a "common man in the ranks" in Mexico, and remain a common man in the

ranks of the survivors to-day, there is nothing in my record that I blush to recall. While I have a proper degree of admiration for my fellow-men who have achieved distinction in an honorable way, I want it understood that it is not on their account that I have expended my energies in this direction. They know how to work out their own salvation.

At our last meeting some of these individuals were accompanied by a person who served in the same regiment with me to prove that my pretensions to being a member of that regiment were groundless. Not anticipating any such plot, on the part of my industrious adversaries, I had not fortified my position against such an attack, but good fortune favored me in one of the seven or eight surviving comrades of my old company being present, in the person of Col. Henry Ray Myers, late Consul to Hamilton, Lower Canada, who routed their "Dragoon force" most effectually, he being a pensioner for a wound received in "G" Company, 3d Dragoons, and was recognized by members present as a competent witness, while my opponent, like myself, had only his unsupported word to prove his service.

Gen. Denver, however, in the goodness of his heart, has settled this question in a manner that I cannot resist the temptation to lay before my friends *and opponents*, even at the risk of being accused of egotism by the latter, as follows:

LETTER OF GEN. J. W. DENVER TO COL. W. G. MOSELEY.

WASHINGTON, D. C., April 15, 1878.

COL. WM. G. MOSELEY, OYSTER CREEK, BRAZORIA CO., TEXAS.

DEAR COLONEL: Allow me to trouble you a moment. You are no doubt aware of the fact that A. M. Kenaday is the Secretary of the National Association of the survivors of the Mexican War. He and you, if I mistake not, belonged to Captain Duperu's company of the 3d Dragoons; at least my recollection of you is as one of the Lieutenants of that company, and he reports himself as having been one of the Sergeants. He has been the life and soul of our organization. In fact, it was mainly through his efforts that the association was organized at all. He has worked for it with the most unselfish and untiring zeal; and yet, strange to say, he has met with the most extraordinary hostility from less than a half dozen persons, who make it a business to attend every meeting of the Association, and to vent their spleen against him, by making charges against him, most of which have been refuted over and over again. Still they seem to be as untiring as they are unscrupulous, and at our last meeting another charge was mentioned, (but not formally presented,) and that was "that A. M. Kenaday was not in the Mexican war at all;" and they had a man there who said he had been Quartermaster's Sergeant of the 3d Dragoons, and did not know any such man in that regiment. A Mr. H. R. Myers contradicted him, or rather his insinuation, and said that he (M.) had belonged to Duperu's company and knew Kenaday well, and spoke in the highest terms of him as a soldier.

Such a charge, of course, can easily be refuted by referring to the records, but the records will not give all I want to know, and therefore I write to you for information. Please inform me if you can whether A. M. Kenaday was a Sergeant in Capt. Duperu's company, 3d Dragoons, in the war with Mexico? How long he served in that company? What battles was he in? And your recollection of him generally as a soldier? Also state whether you belonged to the same company.

Please return this letter with your answer, and oblige.

Yours, respectfully,

J. W. DENVER,

*Pres't Nat. Ass'n Vets. of Mex. War,*

*Formerly Capt. Co. H, 12th U. S. Inf.*

REPLY OF COL. W. G. MOSELEY.

OYSTER CREEK STATION, TEXAS, April 22, 1878.

GEN. J. W. DENVER, Washington, D. C.—Yours of the 15th instant is just to hand, and with all the spirit of a just enterprise in defense of a true and honorable man, an old and tried comrade and friend, I hasten to reply.

I was appointed a 2d Lieutenant 3d Dragoons in April, 1847, by President Polk, and ordered to join Capt. Duperu's troop in New Orleans, which I did. In this troop was a Sergeant named Alex. M. Kenaday, who served during the entire war, having served previously in a Louisiana Infantry regiment. He was frequently under my individual command, on detached service. One memorable occasion was

in the battle of Cherubusco. Sergeant Kenaday and fifteen men were with me near the person of General Worth, to bear orders, lead detachments, &c. Of course we were in the *thickest* of the fight, and the Sergeant performed a feat of heroism, as you could see if my little book of "Reminiscences of the Mexican War" was published.\* The Sergeant was in every action in which my troop was engaged, (several,) and always acted with conspicuous coolness and gallantry.

It is a piece of meanness, cowardice and savagery to endeavor to detract such a man, and I doubt not the authors never smelt powder or heard a bullet whistle. Kenaday is a modest, high-toned, but poor gentleman, working in a good cause, and I take especial pleasure in defending him from a pack of jackalls, and if the Pension bill passes will do my devoirs for him here in Texas.

Yours, very truly,      W. G. MOSELEY.

\* I am permitted by the publisher of Col. W. G. Moseley's "Reminiscences of the Mexican War," to copy the following from the MSS. in advance of its publication:

"Just as the *tete du pont* was captured, and I was pushing forward with my detachment, the causeway was blocked up with the huge Mexican ordnance wagons, one of which was on fire threatening instant explosion. I immediately ordered Sergeant A. M. Kenaday, of my detachment, to dismount with some of the troopers and put out the fire and throw out the ammunition. This most perilous duty, equal to storming the deadly breach, was executed in the most gallant and expeditious manner, and a calamitous disaster averted by true heroism."

\* \* \*

San Sonci, Florida, March 21, 1853.

GASTON.

Maj. R. S. Ripley, aid to Gen. Pillow, also refers to the incident in his history of the "War with Mexico," published in 1849. (Gen. Pillow and his staff paid a flying visit to Gen. Worth as soon as the 5th infantry entered the *tete du pont*, and the two Division Generals marched to the Mexican works in company; and while these officers and their staff were together the incident referred to transpired.) Col. Ripley says:

"The road from the village of Cherubusco to the captured work (*tete du pont*) was much obstructed by the killed and wounded, and the Mexican ammunition train. The huge wagons of which it was composed took up much space, and, in addition, every draught animal attached to them had been killed by the Mexican fire from the *tete du pont* and convent. The confusion caused by the mass of dead men and animals, wagons and material thrown together upon the road, was increased by the taking fire of one of the ammunition wagons, threatening instant and destructive explosion. In consequence, some delay arose in bringing the dragoons forward past the obstacles to the captured work. Some of the soldiers attached to Worth's escort, however, with most reckless daring, mounted the wagons and *actually threw the burning ammunition chests into the ditch!*"

[I take this opportunity to say that the comrade who assisted me in this unloading affair subsequently rode with me, in Phil. Kearny's charge, to the gareta San Antonio, where he was killed and myself unhorsed by the same volley. His name was CURTIS, and, like thousands of other brave men, was tumbled into a ditch without ceremony. If I can ever find his widow, I will at least endeavor to get a pension for her old days.—A. M. K.]

In regard to the insinuation that I had no authority to represent the Veterans of the Mexican War in California, I will only reply that on the 1st of October, 1866, Messrs. Edward Barthrop, Holmes, C. Patrick, Charles Wochotz, James E. Nuttman (now of New Jersey), Wm. Rankin, and John Burke Phillips, who were my associates in organizing the San Francisco Veterans Association, prepared and obtained the signatures to the following testimonial, yet in my possession, to wit:

*To the Honorable Senators and Representatives in Congress from California and the States on the Pacific Slope:*

GENTLEMEN.—The undersigned, officers of the Associated Veterans of the Mexican War, a benevolent organization designed to include the surviving soldiers and sailors resident on the Pacific Coast, who served in the Mexican war, desire, in furtherance of regulations adopted by the association to have an Agent residing in Washington City who can have access to the records of the proper departments for the purpose of procuring authentic information in regard to the qualifications of persons applying for membership in the association, and to collect and forward to the society from the seat of the Government, such advice as will tend to promote the interests and welfare of the body we represent.

We therefore respectfully request that you will use your influence to secure for Mr. Alexander M. Kenaday an appointment in some department of the Government, which will enable him to devote a portion of his time to the objects herein set forth.

Mr. Kenaday honorably served his country during the Mexican war, and from the active interest manifested by him in effecting this organization, we feel warranted in saying that he is well qualified for the service we require at his hands, and that he will worthily and faithfully discharge any duties assigned to him under the government.

Very respectfully yours,

H. W. Halleck, President; Selim E. Woodworth, V. P.; T. W. Freelon, V. P.; Wm. Huefner, Rec. Sec.; R. G. Rogers, Cor. Sec.; J. W. McKenzie, Treasurer;

J. D. Stevenson, Marshal. Trustees—Rich'd P. Hammond, Arch. Cooper, Wm. L. Duncan, Wm. H. Bell, John B. Frisbie, Wm. Blanding.

The above also bears a favorable endorsement of "U. S. Grant, General," dated Dec. 22, 1868.

Many of my personal friends will think I have attached undue importance to Tidball's animadversions, but I am getting tired of having my efforts to maintain the association characterized as the devices of an adventurer, when the author himself will stoop to practices in his profession that should disbar him from association with honorable lawyers. Comrade M. L. Dorne, of West Virginia, was a client of Tidball's, and has no very exalted opinion of him. A case that I prepared and filed at Albany, N. Y., for a comrade at his earnest solicitation, was by some mysterious means transferred to Tidball, who appropriated to his own use the fee which I earned and needed to carry on the association. I propose to make this fellow's exclusion from our meetings in future—where he has no right—a test question.

A. M. KENADAY.

## DEBATES IN CONGRESS ON THE PENSION BILL.

As hereinbefore stated, the House Committee on Pensions reported a bill to grant pensions to the survivors of the Black Hawk, Florida, and Mexican wars, which stands at the head of the calendar for action of the Committee of the Whole, and will probably be passed in December, the first time the House goes into committee.

At various times it was up for consideration during the late session, but our friends found it impossible to get a direct vote on the bill. Mr. Hewitt informed me the last night of the session, that he thought it would pass next winter without much opposition.

Brief sketches of the speeches delivered will not do justice either to the eloquence or research of our friends in Congress, or to the cause they have espoused, but it is all that can be given, owing to pecuniary circumstances beyond the control of the secretary.

## SPEECH OF HON. HIRAM P. BELL, OF GEORGIA.

On the 9th of February, 1878, Hon. H. P. Bell, of Georgia, [Democrat] made a most eloquent and patriotic appeal to the House in favor of our bill.

After alluding to the prevailing custom among governments of recognizing, by some system of rewards, eminent services rendered by their citizens, and stating the fact that our soldiers in the Mexican war and of the Seminole, Creek and Black Hawk Indian wars had never yet been recognized by the usual reward of pensions, Mr. Bell says they had waited during thirty years, all the while patiently and willingly paying their proportion of the taxes, which pay the revolutionary pensions, and those, too, soldiers of the war of 1812, and also the 28 millions to the disabled Union soldiers in the late civil war, without having received one cent of reward for the services which brought us an empire of gold and silver-producing public lands. They are now willingly paying taxes for the support of the regular army, for the maintenance of West Point, for the interest on the Pacific railway bonds, and for the mail steamer subsidies, some of which would not have become necessary, or, perhaps, even possible, but for the services of these veterans. Upon what system of justice have these Mexican and Indian veterans been thus slighted? Why are they now humiliated by being compelled to come here in an organized shape, year after year to demand the simple meed of satisfaction and recognition to which they are clearly and justly entitled? Their valor obtained for us an area of nearly 1,000,000 square miles of territory, comprising California, Colorado, Nevada, Arizona, Utah, New Mexico, and Wyoming. And from these we have unearthed over one thousand millions of metallic treasures, independent of their agricultural and commercial resources. The story of their wealth transcends the most fabulous tales of the Orient, of Ormus and of India! This territory was purchased for us by volunteer blood, by the sacrifices of home and the happiness incident to peace and peaceful

parents at the call of Country. Everything dear to the heart of man was risked by these patriots of thirty years ago that the wrongs of their country might be avenged. They took no thought for the future. They had no doubt Congress would gratefully and promptly recognize their services. They knew it was the established policy of the government to take care of its veterans with pensions to them or their dependent heirs, and if they fell or were disabled, they made no doubt their wants and those of their dependants would be provided for in like manner. They had no doubt that the services of all would be recognized in the usual way. They had every right to expect it. That expectation was also strengthened by the brilliant and unparalleled success of their efforts. And now, after thirty years of waiting, they are here at the doors of Congress, old and decrepit, many of them from the sufferings of their campaigns, and the diseases then contracted, asking only for an annual stipend of less than one tenth of one percentum of the vast sum of the treasures secured by us by their patriotic sacrifices. Still we hesitate!—hesitate to do justice! Hesitate to pay a slight brokerage on our acquisitions! I shall cheerfully support this bill. I wish it were even more liberal in its provisions for the widows and orphans of those soldiers whose valor first taught the whole world that the citizen soldiers of the United States, the representative Republic of the world, were as invincible when avenging insult and wrong upon a foreign soil as when defending their own homes and firesides from spoilation by a foreign foe. This lesson has proved of incalculable value to our country. It has compelled the respect of the whole civilized world. The promptitude with which, after a series of brilliant victories, our national colors were planted upon the heights of Chepultepec, whence they shortly afterwards waved over the proud city of the Aztecs, attracted the attention, if not the applause, of the military powers of the earth. Since these achievements, no foreign power has deemed it prudent to sneer at our prowess. Shall we longer subject ourselves to the reprobation of the nations by failing and repressing to recognize properly the patriotism and valor which achieved such magnificent results?

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## SPEECH OF HON. H. A. HERBERT, OF ALABAMA.

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The Mexican veterans' pension bill was taken up in the House on the 15th of February, when, after the reading of the able report of the committee, Mr. Herbert proceeded to discuss the merits of the bill, and particularly that feature of it which proposes to make no discrimination between those of its beneficiaries who fought for and against the government during the late civil war. He proposed, by the repeal of section 3,480 of the Revised Statutes, to give full effect to the execution of laws by heads of departments to the decision of the Supreme Court to the effect "that the pardon of the president restored rights of property, and that this effect was not subject to the control of Congress."

The bill will affect but very few Confederates who have not been pardoned, and such are debarred from its benefits and terms. If the pension system, as adopted by this government, is just and proper, and if it has been feasibly characterized as constituting a valid claim by the soldier upon the government, then is the property of such soldier, a part of his estate, and there can be no good reason for confiscating such property that would not apply with equal force to all other property. As no other property is made confiscable, except through a decree of a court of competent jurisdiction, why should claims of Southern soldiers be confiscated by decree of a head of a department? If the president's pardon not only remits the penalty, but also blots out the offence, pardoned and restores property rights, why exact from Southern claimants who have been pardoned, proof of loyalty? If the act of asking or accepting pardon be accounted proof of guilt, why should not the possession of a full pardon also be accounted proof *prima facie* of innocence and restored loyalty?

Mr. Herbert justly argues that claimants under this act in the South, being poor, need the pittance they would receive from its passage, and the effect of its prompt payment would be salutary upon the rest of the community. These old soldiers are still patriotic, and are also the oracles of their circles. This recognition of their services would kindle the fire of patriotism in their breasts and strengthen their respect for the government, while it would also excite the sympathy of their neighbors in the same direction, and gradually build up an affectionate and loyal sentiment for the Federal Government. The many thousands of Southern soldiers, and the

widows and orphans of such as were fighting against the government in the late civil war, Mr. Herbert said, could never expect national reward. They did not expect it. But they had accepted the logic of events. They acknowledged allegiance to the government they had fought to destroy, and now claimed it as their government. They were rehabilitated as citizens. They were represented in the councils of the nation, and they now demand an equal and just share in the blessings of the government as that government is administered. They do not wish to be constantly made to feel that all the blessings of this government are for the people of the North, and its burdens all for the South, nor to have all their motives and acts misconstrued to their prejudice. They are too poor to buy government bonds, but they are still rich in the desire to aid in building up the country into a great and prosperous nation, that shall be honored at home and abroad by all other nations, colors and conditions of men. They are willing to be taxed to pay all national obligations, but they ask that they may have their just share of all benefits accruing from national legislation. They ask that the Southern heroes of the Mexican fields, as well as the Northern ones may be allowed to share in the rewards for the gallantry there displayed. Better than all the gold of California and all the silver of Nevada, that the South may feel that Congress legislates alike for the North and the South. Then will reconstruction be complete.

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## REMARKS OF HON. L. POWERS, OF MAINE.

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On the same day, Mr. Powers, of Maine—a Republican member of the Committee on Invalid Pensions—spoke in opposition to the bill, basing his objections upon the large sum of money its provisions would take from the Treasury in the present hard times (which he estimated would reach \$7,000,000 per annum), when the country is not well able to pay it: the establishment of two bad precedents in legislation, viz: pensioning volunteer soldiers in Indian wars, and pensioning able-bodied men in the prime of life (56 years of age), many of whom are men of station and fortune; and, finally, by repealing the section 4,716 of the Revised Statutes, opening wide the door, as he believed, for the payment of the arrears of pensions to those in the Confederate service, not only back to the date of their pardon, but clear back to the date of the suspension of their names from the rolls, including the very time that they were engaged in fighting against the government that was paying them. Mr. Powers estimated that instead of six thousand beneficiaries, as calculated in the committee's report, under this bill there would be some 45,000 of the Mexican veterans, and some 30,000 who fought in the Indian wars, and that the annual cost would exceed seven millions, instead of only one-and-a-half, as estimated by the committee's report.

Mr. Powers asseverated that the soldiers of the Revolution averaged nearly eighty years of age when pensioned, and that then it was upon the grounds that they had received no pay while in the service, except in worthless notes, and there was at the time of the passage of that bill a surplus in the Treasury, out of which we were able to pay that just debt to the few surviving octogenarians who suffered those hardships for us in the infancy of the country. Again, the veterans of 1812 were not pensioned until fifty-six years after their discharge from service. Their average age was nearly eighty. But here it was proposed to pension some 40,000 men whose average age was only fifty-six, and whose discharge from service occurred only thirty years ago. He contended that there was no precedent in our history for this proposition; that no former pension act could be cited fairly as a precedent for this proposed act. He quoted from the debates of 1871 to sustain his assertion. Mr. Powers criticised the committee's estimates of the number of beneficiaries who would probably apply, and instead of six thousand, insisted that they were more likely to reach 45,000, as shown by data, which he considered reliable. He then referred to those engaged in the Indian wars, and asserted that this proposition to pension soldiers engaged in such wars was entirely without precedent. To pass it, would open the doors to application for pensions from every frontiersman in the land, for there are very few of them who could not prove that they had served at least thirty days upon Indian trails. His estimate of the survivors of the several Indian wars, who would be entitled, under this bill, to pensions, was 30,000 as against 3,700 estimated on the committee's report.

In consideration of these facts and allegations, Mr. Powers concluded that it was highly inexpedient and impolitic to pass a bill inaugurating such a new and radical

innovation upon our past history, and the more especially at a time when the people were groaning under the heavy weight of present taxation. It would be bad policy, in times of plenty, when industries were all employed at remunerative rates and prosperity on every hand, caused a large surplus to flow into the people's treasury. What must it be, then, when all are staggering under onerous burdens, when labor is unemployed, and capital is paralyzed; the wheels of industry blocked, and the privations of poverty afflicting a large percentage of the people?

Mr. Hewitt, of Ala., corrected some of the statements made by Mr. Powers, which tended, in a measure, to reconcile the wide discrepancies as to results.

Mr. Powers avowed himself in favor of paying pardoned Confederates, whose names had been suspended from the rolls during the civil war, those arrears which had accrued since the date of President Johnson's general amnesty. But he claimed that if the section of inhibition (4.716) were repealed, as is here proposed, the effect would be to pay them for the years during which they were in rebellion, and were fighting against the government.

THE SECRETARY'S CARD REVIEWING POWERS' SPEECH.

Immediately on the publication of the speech of Mr. Powers, Secretary Kenaday published a card addressed to the editor of the *National Republican*, Washington, D. C., and sent a copy to the desk of every member, in which he took issue with Mr. Powers' method of arriving at the assumed annual cost of \$7,000,000 as involved in this bill. The "Carlisle tables," made from the data of "Life Assurance Experiences," were shown to be utterly inapplicable to the average longevity of the volunteer soldier element of population, which is known to be largely made up of reckless, adventurous spirits who no sooner escape from one danger than they are seeking the excitement of another. The fact that large numbers of the soldiers of the Mexican War entered the mining fields of California, at its close, is well known. Others joined Lopez in his Cuban raid and were lost. Still others found graves in Nicaragua under Walker, and others went to Yucatan, while nearly all remaining survivors took part upon one side or the other, in our late civil war, and very many of them were lost or disabled. The calculations of Mr. Powers ignores all these extraordinary chances of destruction to life as well as the other important element that enters into the formation of the "Carlisle tables," viz.: That all cases of life risks are carefully examined by medical experts before they are taken, all those of doubtful character being rejected.

In taking volunteers, the Government uses no such sanitary crucible regarding longevity. The only question there considered is whether the applicant can probably endure the rigors of the pending campaigns. The Secretary then proceeds to dissect and dissipate the figures of Mr. Powers as follows:

"Mr. Powers having concluded to his own satisfaction that one out of two of the older wars' men is still alive, proceeds to argue that about three out of four of those who returned alive from Mexico are still surviving. Of 66,087 men who escaped death in Mexico, but who brought home with them the seeds of malarial disease from that torrid zone, there ought to be, according, as is alleged, to the Carlisle tables, 45,600 of them alive to-day, thirty years (notable for wars and wild adventures well calculated to engulf men of their peculiar characteristics) having intervened. The process by which Mr. Powers arrived at this result is not stated in his argument. He does not, however, make any account of the vast number of those men who took part in the late war on both sides of the contest, nor of those who found graves in Nicaragua, Cuba, Yucatan, or in exploring the undeveloped territory acquired by the war from Mexico. But adding up these two extravagant estimates, 30,522 Indian war men and 45,600 Mexican war soldiers, he finds 76,122 pensioners, at \$96 a year, amounting to \$7,307,712 to be the annual cost of the bill under consideration.

"Mr. Powers knows, as well as the ten gentlemen, his colleagues, who signed the report of the Invalid Pension Committee, that his calculation is fallacious and based on a blundering error of the Pension Office, which was thoroughly exploded by the report of the Secretary of the National Association of Mexican Veterans last year.

"The Pension office report referred to stated that the ratio of survivors of 1812 was found to be 3 in 8, and gave as the result 40,100 survivors. "Taking this estimate," said the Commissioner, "made for the survivors of 1812, as the basis for obtaining the number in the Mexican, Florida, and Black Hawk wars (146,613 soldiers) it is not unreasonable to assume that one-half survive at this date. \* \* \*

The above estimate gives as surviving over 73,000." Over \$7,000,000 a year!

"To the average member of Congress who cannot spare his time in working out

such problems this calculation would be accepted as fact, coming from one of the Executive departments. But a very simple calculation, based on a report of the Adjutant General of March 4, 1850, showing the number of 1812 veterans to be 471,622, exposes the error.

"The above aggregate would give us (adopting the simplest method of calculation) 4,716 companies of 100 men each. The ratio of 3 in 8 is equal to 37½ per cent. (The Commissioner said an actual count of two or three companies exceeded this percentage, giving 41 to 43 in 100.) Multiplying the 4,716 companies by 37½, we have 176,850 survivors of the war of 1812, instead of 40,100, thus knocking the ratio on which he based his calculation into *pit*, and leaving the superstructure—the estimate of Mexican veterans, &c.—in the air, without foundation in fact.

"But what are the facts shown by the statistics published by the officials? There have been found 28,548 pensioners, including widows, under the 1812 act—about 6 to each of the 4,716 companies of 100 each. Apply this method, proved by vital statistics, to the enrolled men of the Indian wars and the Mexican war embraced in the bill, stated by the Commissioner to be 146,613, equal to 1,466 companies of 100. Multiplying this number by the actual ratio of the 1812 case (six per cent.), and you have a total of 8,796 survivors. Double the amount, if you wish to allow for difference of time in two cases (which, however, would not be allowed by the Carlisle tables), and you have a total of 17,592, or about 4,000 more than the Invalid Pension Committee estimate in their report. But if this doubling-up process is observed, we must insist upon withdrawing from the aggregate of the commissioner above given 12,896 deaths in Mexico, 6,725 desertions, 6,525 pensioners, and 13,221 re-enlistments during the Mexican war, to say nothing of counting in the regular army as a part of the aggregate number in each war. If these deductions are observed, and they are recognized by that office as correct, it will suffice to sustain the report of the honorable Committee on Invalid Pensions as the reasonable statement of the case. No more is asked.

A. M. KENADAY,  
*Sec. Nat. Assn. V. M. W.*

## SPEECH OF HON. CHAS. H. JOYCE, OF VERMONT.

On the 26th of February, 1878, Mr. Joyce, of Vermont, [Republican,] of the minority of the Committee on Invalid Pensions announced his opposition to the measure, chiefly, for the reasons that the proposed gratuity was in no sense in the nature of a valid claim due the soldier from the Government, but was a generous beneficence, a reward of merit for patriotism practically demonstrated, as it were, that is entirely optional with Government to give or to withhold. The citizen owes his Government his services and even his life when demanded in its defence, and when he proffers them, Mr. Joyce holds that he only performs his duty; the tokens of appreciation coming after, if any, from Government are simply voluntary expressions of gratitude on the part of their fellow-citizens who did not volunteer to share the perils, hardships and privations, incident to war toward those who did. Mr. Joyce ignores all legal obligation, either express or implied, to pension these soldiers. He next professes his willingness to show his generosity by pensioning such soldiers, *provided that none of the benefits may accrue to those who served the Confederacy in the late civil war.* He opposes all clauses and sections of the bill looking toward the making of our ex-Confederate soldiers a beneficiary of the Government even for services rendered antecedent to the rebellion. Service in that cause he never will consent to overlook and forgive entirely. Mr. Joyce assents to the correctness generally of the figures given by Mr. Powers, as to the probable annual cost of this bill to the Treasury. But he could surmount these obstacles in his gratitude to the soldier element of our country were it not for the proposed repeal of sections 4,716 and 3,480 of the Revised Statutes, which would permit ex-Confederates to receive the benefit of the provisions of this bill. Amended, as he suggests, the bill "would give a pension to every soldier engaged in either of those wars named, excepting only those who afterward engaged in, or aided or abetted the rebellion." Mr. Joyce admits the moral obligation of Government to care for disabled soldiers, and for the families of the killed, while he denies any legal or vested right of the soldier to claim it. He admits the legal and constitutional right of the Congress "to restore those even who were dropped from the rolls, and pension the rest, but objects to it because it would be unfair and unjust to the thousands of Union soldiers, and because it would blot out all distinction between the men who rebelled and those who remained true to the Government."

These various points were energetically argued and fortified by citations from

the opinions of others; and the remainder of Mr. Joyce's remarks embraced a powerful appeal in favor of his view as to what would constitute the basis of a lasting peace between the North and South. The passage of this Pension bill formed no part of that basis. He could forgive the treason, but could not commend the traitor. He contended at length that the pensioning for services rendered long before the late civil war men who afterward aided the rebellion, even though they be pardoned, and poor, and needy, would be granting a premium on treason, while our hundreds of thousands of Union soldiers remain unrewarded. The era of peace is to begin when Southern people see conciliation through Northern spectacles. Then Mr. Joyce will take them all to his embraces.

[Perhaps the era of conciliation will be reached when a Protective tariff to enrich the manufacturing corporations of Vermont is acquiesced in by the ex-Confederates. At least, that appeared to be the burden of a subsequent speech on the tariff question. Mr. Joyce is not a native of Vermont, but perhaps bases his antipathy to the Mexican veterans on the resolutions of his State Legislature during the Mexican war. He has recently flooded the State with copies of his speech on our bill, and the Boston *Herald* suggests that it will serve to show his constituents what a mistake they have made in sending such a man to represent them.]

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## REMARKS OF HON. A. M. SCALES, OF NORTH CAROLINA

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On the 28th of February, the pension bill being under consideration in committee of the whole House, Mr. Scales, of North Carolina, replied briefly to the remarks of Mr. Joyce. He contended that it was the policy of this government to pension its volunteer soldiers. This policy had been adopted for the reason that we kept no standing army, except the few regulars necessary to form the nucleus for the organization of large volunteer forces in the event of war. It was deemed cheaper and better to adopt this policy of rewards than support in idleness large standing armies in times of peace, as all the great European powers were obliged to do in order that they might be prepared for war. We had saved money by this policy, and had also shown the gratitude of the government to those who responded to its call in times of need. The wisdom of the policy was vindicated by the prompt responses that had always been given by citizens to the calls of government. But has the government been equally prompt in the recognition of such services? No! It has waited one, two, or three generations before making the acknowledgment of service, except to the disabled. The cases covered by this bill are from fifty-five to seventy-five years of age. They are fast passing beyond the reach of our aid. They will all soon have gone where even our tardy evidences of gratitude will fail to excite any responsive emotions, and where our money will fail to purchase for them happiness or comfort. If we intend to do anything for these men, we cannot do it too soon.

Are those who served the late confederacy never to participate in the bounties and blessings of government? Are they to vote, to pay taxes, to enjoy all the burdens of citizenship, but never more to enjoy the confidences and share the honors of government? Not if the gentleman from Vermont (MR. JOYCE) can have his way! He will never consent that any one who served in the Confederacy can become sufficiently purged and penitent, or can render such patriotic service to this government again as to entitle him to become its pensioner. Let us rejoice that he is no native-born son of Vermont. He is a true scion of old England. The predominance of such sentiments in our legislators would raise but small armies in case of future wars. If it is to be understood that no service, however arduous; no patriotism, however pure and unselfish, is to work absolution of the past and full communion in the blessings of government in the future, there is indeed no inducement for Southern men to be loyal.

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## HON. C. H. SINNICKSON, OF NEW JERSEY.

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Mr. Sinnickson [Rep.] followed Mr. Scales, and in opposition to the bill. He was a member of the Committee on Pensions, and had never, from the inception of this bill into the 43d Congress, favored its passage. He did not oppose it upon the

ground that more Southern than of Northern men might be benefitted by its provisions. He did not oppose it because it would repeal section 4,716 of the Revised Statutes. We had opened wide the doors of forgiveness to all, and thrust honors and offices upon those who led in the rebellion, and he could not now refuse the poor pittance to them who had fought the battles of our country in the days of their youth and prime, now that they were old and needy; but he opposed the bill on account of *expediency*; on account of the *immense sums involved* and the necessities of the people. He opposed it because he believed it wrong in principle, and would establish a dangerous precedent; and also because it discriminated unjustly against Union soldiers, by rewarding the patriotism of men who served in Mexico, and afterwards struck at the existance of the government whose bounty they now seek; while it does nothing for the Union men who fought them for the preservation of that government. He thought the estimate of Mr. Powers more likely to be accurate than those of the committee.

This was not a debt. Who would pretend to pay for patriotism at \$8 per month?

If it were a debt, he would say, pay it to the last cent. It was not a legal obligation. It was a token of appreciation, in addition to regular pay, bounty and subsistence already given for the service. No amount of mere dollars and cents could compensate a man for leaving his fireside to peril his life and health and endure the hardships and privations and dangers incident to the soldier's career in time of war. And it is only in war time that our citizens are called upon to volunteer. The idea of *paying* for such sacrifices at \$8 per month is degrading; and yet one of the chief arguments urged in favor of this bill is that we *owe* these men this pitiful stipend for services rendered. This is all wrong. We pay him for his time, that he may have something for his family, and we subsist and clothe him in the field. We cannot pay him for his risks. If he is killed, we take care of his dependants; if he is disabled, we take care of him; if he becomes aged, decrepid, poor and needy, we pension him in his declining years. We always owe him a nation's gratitude; and this is a debt which we can never cancel. Like the interest on the national debt of Great Britain, it is constantly accruing; but the principal is rarely or never cancelled. But there is no precedent for such a bill as this. Our military system is a marvel to foreigners. In times of peace there is no military display! When war comes—the whole land bristles with bayonets! Each citizen is at once transformed into a soldier; and this without the least thought of a future pension. It may be well twenty years hence to pass such a bill as this. In the present exigencies of the country, the heavy taxes, the low prices, the scarcity of employment, the general hard times, it would be unwise.

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## HON. J. J. DAVIS, OF NORTH CAROLINA.

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Mr. Davis addressed himself first to the debt of gratitude which the people owed to the soldiers in the wars covered by this bill. He held that volunteer soldiers were the butwarks of the government, and declared that if ever the time should arrive when the people would not volunteer in the defence of their liberties, then would be the time when the country would be ripe for despotism. He regretted that even this discussion must take a partisan turn; or what is worse, a sectional turn. He wished that this bill might pass unanimously. He wished that the gratitude of the country to these patriotic old soldiers might have free expression unsullied by contact with partisan polities and untinged by the renewal of sectional hate. He advocated the repeal of section 4,716 in order to give effect to the pension acts in favor of those pensioners of the war of 1812 and of the Mexican war whose names have been dropped from the rolls for aiding or abetting the rebellion. He insisted that these old soldiers should not be so severely punished for simply, and in most cases, passively sympathizing with the Confederates, who were their relatives and friends when all others had been pardoned and their civil rights fully restored. He cited Vattel to prove that punishment of insurgents should be light and equal and uniform, except of the leading spirits who incited the rebellion; that an amnesty granted must be fully and scrupulously observed by the ruling power, and that the acts pardoned must be buried in oblivion, if permanent and effective peace is to reign in the land. The amnesty that restored the active rebels to their full civil rights should certainly not continue to deprive the old pensioner of his suspended rights.

The gentlemen from Maine (MR. POWERS) and from Vermont (MR. JOYCE) are largely and entirely in error regarding the numbers whom this bill would pension, as well as the cost it would annually involve. Their estimates were partially based

upon an erroneous statement of the Commissioner of Pensions regarding the number of survivors of the war of 1812. These would now be over ninety years of age. The last census shows that there were *less than nine thousand men in the whole country over ninety*. And yet the Commissioner's estimate was for eighteen thousand applicants from 1812 survivors, and their widows and dependants. This did not indicate any great accuracy in the estimates of the Commissioner. He believed the estimates of the committee were reliable, and would be verified by the facts. He denied that this law would pension Jefferson Davis. His disabilities had not been removed. Until they were, he could never become a a beneficiary under this bill. Mr. Davis then reviewed with some severity Mr. Joyce's notions of conciliation and peace. He did not wish to be continually reminded that he had been declared in rebellion, and had owed his present position to executive clemency. He had no very elevated opinion of that clemency which was always reminding its recipients of the great obligations they were under to it for present existence.

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## HON. HARRY WHITE, OF PENNSYLVANIA.

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Hon. Harry White, of Penn., in a three minute speech, opposed the bill, upon the grounds of a new and dangerous departure from the regular pension policy. The men were not old enough; they were not hurt enough; they did not serve long enough; they were not poor and needy enough and they were not sick enough (for were they not still living?) to come within the well-defined pension policy of the American Government. Had not those who were disabled already received pensions? Had not all the rest been duly paid and honorable discharged? Had they not all, moreover, received land warrants? And, besides, were not many of them now among the wealthy and highly honored citizens of the country? Submitted, that it is not fair to grant pensions to all these and refuse them to all those who bore an honorable part in the great conflict to preserve the Union.

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## SPEECH OF HON. C. E. HOOKER, OF MISSISSIPPI.

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Gen. C. E. Hooker recited the text of the bill, and then quoted from the report of the committee the estimated number of beneficiaries under it as follows:

Mexican surviving volunteers.....	.....	.....	6,000
Widows.....	.....	.....	1,000
Regulars surviving.....	.....	.....	2,700
Black Hawk soldiers and widows.....	.....	.....	200
Creek and Seminole soldiers and widows.....	.....	.....	3,500
 Total.....	.....	.....	 13,400

At ninety-six dollars per man per annum, these would cost \$1,286,400; but this aggregate would be constantly decreased by mortality. The total cost to the government, covering a period of twenty to thirty years in disbursements, entailed by this bill, will not exceed eighteen millions of dollars. This will only be two-thirds to three fourths of the annual cost of our present regular army. Can the country not well afford to do this for these veteran soldiers in furtherance of the idea that its dependance in all great emergencies is upon the promptitude, efficiency, and courage of its volunteers? If it could not depend on its volunteers, what would be the annual cost of its necessary regular army? Hundreds of millions!

Gen. Hooker next turned his attention to some of the assertions of Mr. Joyce, and refuted them by citations from the committee's report. He showed that section 6 of the bill excluded all from its benefits who labored under the disabilities imposed by the fourteenth amendment to the Constitution. This excludes the great leader referred to as the "head and front" of that offending. In reference to those pensioners formerly on the rolls, but who are suspended by the action of section 4,716, Gen. Hooker quotes the decision of the U. S. Supreme Court, *ex parte* Garland, 4 Wall, as follows:

"A pardon reaches both the punishment prescribed for the offense and the guilt of the offender, and when the pardon is full, it releases the punishment, and blots out of existance the guilt, so that in the eye of the law the offender is as innocent as if he had never committed the offense."

In Klein's case, 34 Wall 137, the same court said:

"Pardon includes amnesty. It blots out the offense pardoned, and removes all its penal consequences." \* \* \* The President's power of pardon is not subject to legislation. Congress can neither limit the effect of his pardon nor exclude from its exercise any class of offender."

Thus it will be seen that every soldier in the Mexican war--not included in the fourteenth amendment—is, by the several acts of general amnesty, and by the special pardons granted, restored, in the opinion of the Supreme Court, to all his rights as a pensioner under the government for services rendered in the Mexican war as completely and as fully as if there never had been a rebellion, and this surely flushes the objections of the gentleman from Vermont, for it shows that section 4 716 is void, and of no effect, if carried to the Supreme Court. As it is, pension agents are governed by it, and its operation includes many widows and orphans of deceased soldiers of the Mexican war from their legal rights. Gen. HOOKER denied emphatically that any invidious distinction was made in this bill. It treated all alike who came within the scope of its provisions. When the time should come to pension veterans of the late civil war beyond the bounties they had already received, and it should be proposed to include those veterans who served in the late confederacy in its benefits, then would be the proper time for the gentleman from Vermont and his *confreres* to raise the cry of invidious distinctions. Now, this cry has no pertinence. It is altogether out of place.

The Treasury now holds \$34,000,000 worth of captured property belonging to the Southern pardoned claimants, but for which payment is refused. It also holds \$60,000,-000 of unconstitutionally collected cotton tax that Congress refuses to refund to the Southern people, from whose poverty it was wrung in dark hours of defeat and disfranchisement. And yet we are told that this great nation is too poor to grant the pittance required by this bill to a few old soldiers, a minority of whom belong in the Southern section which has been thus despoiled. When shall we be richer? When shall we be rich enough to do justice? It is upon this floor, and in this hall, and here only, that we hear the plea of poverty when called upon to pay just claims. The people do not complain of being taxed to pay what they justly owe.

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### HON. WM. WALSH, OF MARYLAND.

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Mr. Walsh [Democrat] devoted his ten minutes to the dissipation of the fallacy under which Mr. McGOWAN labored as to the character of the pensions withheld under section 4 716. Pensions are of two classes: those from disabilities arising from the service was a debt accruing from the nature of the contract made and entered into by enlistment. Those for old age in acknowledgment of services rendered long before were a gratuity. The former were claimed, as proposed in this bill, by virtue of the seventh section of the act declaring war with Mexico, to the effect that volunteers disabled in the service during that war should be entitled to all the benefits that might be conferred upon any other persons in the service. Suppose these men forfeited their rights when they rebelled, they have been pardoned, and their rights restored. Section 4 716 is unconstitutional, and should be repealed so as no longer to obstruct ministerial action in the departments. Now, while it operates, its effect is to make two hundred old disabled soldiers of the Mexican war bear the entire odium of the great rebellion.

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### SPEECH OF HON. H. Y. RIDDLE, OF TENNESSEE.

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Mr. Riddle regretted the sectional turn the discussion of the bill had taken. The days of reconstruction and rehabilitation were, or should be, over, and when over, their ghosts should not appear to demoralize all our discussions or be injected into

the operation of every piece of proposed legislation. Mr. Riddle then passed in review the results of the self-sacrificing services of these war-worn veterans in the defence of the pioneers of the extreme Southern States and of the Northwest, the acquisition of the splendid mineral and agricultural territory, sufficient to constitute fifteen of the largest States in the Union, that had opened up the grand highway to China and Japan and conducted their commerce into the lap of American civilization; that had added nearly two thousand millions to the metallic currency of the world, and thus impelled our sails on every sea on the habitable globe. It is proposed that we cannot afford to pension these veterans. Are we, then, a nation of ingrates, misers, or of spendthrifts, that we cannot afford two millions per annum to pay a debt of gratitude to these old patriots? By the annual report of the Secretary of the Treasury, it appears that the public debt was reduced the last fiscal year, notwithstanding our pinching poverty and the onerous burdens of our tax-payers, over two hundred and twenty-one millions. And this was done in defiance of law. It was done to enhance the value of securities of the foreign bondholder, which are now largely above par. And yet we are too poor to pay our old pensioners a couple of millions per annum or to continue our public works for the benefit of our idle laborers and our paralyzed industries. He proposed to suspend the operation of the sinking fund law of February, 1862, for a period, and utilize the funds for the payment of old soldiers' pensions and the just claims of the government that had never yet reached the shape of bonds, but which were not one whit the less binding. There is no prodigality in the passage of this bill. In cases like this, liberality is true economy, and parsimony is the wildest extravagance. Let it be remembered that where virtue and valor receives the highest rewards, there the truest and noblest patriots are always to be found. Let us gladden the hearts of the veterans of all the wars enumerated in this bill by its prompt passage by a triumphant majority.

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## HON. OTHO R. SINGLETON, OF MISSISSIPPI.

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Mr. SINGLETON, who followed Mr. Riddle, devoted his attention chiefly to the sectional aspect that some had endeavored to give to this debate, and to the allusion that had been made to the distinguished citizen of his State (JEFFERSON DAVIS) whose name, he said, he always delighted to mention, although he knew it was under the ban of public sentiment in certain sections of the country. It was feared that Jefferson Davis would at some time become a beneficiary under this bill. Mr. Davis resigned his seat in this House to accept the command of the 1st Mississippi regiment in the Mexican war, and he fought bravely from Monterey to Buena Vista, and came home on crutches, and he bears to-day the honorable scars he received in defence of the flag of his country. We are told of his latter rebellion, and are twitted of the great magnanimity that has been shown him (*vide* the manacles of Fortress Monroe). It is called unparalleled. Look at Count Andrassy, *premier* of Austria, who rebelled with Hungary in 1846, and was even condemned to die for his treason. Twenty years later he became Prime Minister, the position he now holds. Now, although thirteen years has passed since the end of our war, amnesty is still refused to Mr. Davis by this magnanimous Congress. But so far as Mr. Davis is concerned, he is pursuing quietly his business in life. He would have read at the clerk's desk a letter he had received from Mr. Davis in order to show the magnanimity of the man. He would say that Mr. Davis held that his first allegiance was due his State, and when that seceded—although in opposition to his wishes and judgment—he resigned his seat in the Senate to follow its fortunes and to obey its commands. He differed from its Governor and a majority of its Congressional delegation, and there was a chapter of unwritten history in regard to this matter, which he would detail, if he had time, that would lighten up the reputation of Mr. Davis in the Northern mind; but here is the letter:

MISSISSIPPI CITY, 1878

DEAR SIR: I am quite unwilling that personal objections to me by members of Congress should defeat the proposed measure to grant pensions to the veterans of the war against Mexico, therefore request and authorize you, should the fate of the bill depend upon excluding me from its benefits, in my behalf, to ask my friends and the friends of the measure silently to allow a provision for my exclusion from the benefits of the bill to be inserted in it. From other sources you will have learned that not a few of those who then periled their lives for their country are now so indigent and infirm as to require relief, and it would be to me sorrowful,

indeed, if my comrades in that war should suffer deprivations because of their association with me.

While on this subject I will mention that it did not require a law to entitle me to be put on the list of pensioners, but the rather requires legal prohibition to deprive me of that right. As an officer regularly mustered into the military service of the United States, and while serving as such, I was "severely wounded" in battle and could, under laws then existing, have applied for and received a pension. My circumstances did not require pecuniary relief from the Government, and I did not make the requisite application, therefore my name has never been upon the roll of pensioners, and offers no obstruction to the restoration of those names which have been stricken from it.

Respectfully and truly yours,

JEFFERSON DAVIS.

HON. O. R. SINGLETON.

It will be seen that Mr. Davis could long ago have been a pensioner under the law, but that he not only never caused his name to be enrolled, but that he now with characteristic self-abnegation, demands that he be expressly excepted by terms from the benefits of this bill rather than suffer its passage to be inhibited or endangered. The unwritten chapter in history shows that when the Secession Convention of South Carolina was in session the Governor of Mississippi called a conference of the Congressional delegation of the State at Jackson to determine what should be the proper State action. The Governor and a majority of the delegation favored immediate secession following the lead of South Carolina. Mr. Davis opposed this and favored correspondence among the Governors of the different Southern States to obtain uniformity of views and action, and if possible arrive at an amicable adjustment of national difficulties. If such conclusion were found impracticable, then to arrange for the simultaneous secession of all the Southern States at a given day and hour, with a view to harmonious action in the future. He did not think success would attend separate State action. He was overruled and bowed to the will of the majority. The rest is known. His conduct needs no apology or eulogy from me.

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## SPEECH OF HON. J. N. WILLIAMS, OF ALABAMA.

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In debate in Committee of the Whole, March 1, Mr. Williams, of Alabama, advocated pensions to the soldiers in the Creek war most eloquently, portraying the perils of the service which they rendered, and the anxieties they suffered on account of the exposed condition of their property and families during their absence. This service was more perilous and arduous than any other, and he could not see why it did not demand a pension equally with any other. His District was the scene of this Creek war. The Alabama settler who served in it went at the call of the Government just as much as did the soldiers of the war of 1812. They obeyed the orders of the common commander. They were supplied from Government stores. They were paid by Government Paymasters and discharged by Government mustering officers. When they left home, it was not to war with civilized troops who were a guaranty for humane treatment of prisoners, and scientific surgical attendance upon the wounded, but it was to leave house, wife and little ones at home exposed to the torch, tomahawk and scalping knife of a savage foe, and to face his treacherous warfare with the certainty of torture and stake in case of capture. No service can compare with it for terror to a man of family and of affection. These men are now nearly seventy, and can be but few. One description of Indian warfare will suffice for all. The soldiers in the Black Hawk and Seminole wars faced the same dangers that I have described. Let us show our grateful appreciation of their valor before it is too late. I say to the gentleman from Maine, (Mr. Powers,) that section has naught to do in this matter. It is a moral obligation of such a sacred character that it transcends all mere legal requirements. It is a testimonial to these aged men of their youthful valor and patriotism of surpassing value, and sweeter far than any other notice that Congress could take of them.

Of the Mexican veterans what need I say, when we have daily, hourly, and momentarily in communication with us a Golden Empire, and in this hall a dozen Representatives from the lands which are the fruits of their valor? Let the

thousands of millions of treasures and the variety and abundance of agricultural products which constantly visit us by way of iron rails, attest the importance of those services, and shame us into making the proper acknowledgment.

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### HON. RICHARD WILLIAMS, OF OREGON.

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This gentleman representing a district largely a sufferer from Indian hostilities and a constituency many of whom can fully appreciate the dangers incident to Indian warfare, wished to state in the five minutes allowed him the reason why he should vote against the bill. He conceded that it was part of the contract of enlistment to pension aged, infirm and disabled soldiers. But this contract had been filled, and some had forfeited their rights under it, which caused the passage of section 4,716. He could not vote to pension those not obnoxious to section 4,716 without pensioning those disqualified by it also. He believed there were good and sufficient reasons for the passage of that section when it was enacted, and nothing had occurred since that would, in his opinion, justify its repeal. He could not vote the repeal of this section as a distinct proposition, for that reason he would vote against the bill as an entirety.

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### HON. THOMAS RYAN, OF KANSAS.

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Mr. Ryan had also but five minutes, and simply wished to explain his vote. He could vote the pensions to those Mexican veterans who had remained loyal. He could make no such invidious distinction against the loyal men who fought to preserve the government as he thought he saw in this bill. He could not indorse the principle which proposed to reward the patriotism which thirty years ago fought for this government against Mexico; and yet was not so strong but that sixteen years ago it could turn and place its hand upon the throat of the government for which it then fought. Nor could he indorse the principle and vote to establish the precedent of pensioning all soldiers who served thirty days in the Indian wars. Practically this would include all the surviving early pioneers of the North West. The service was perilous and patriotic, but it was an incident to frontier life which none could escape. He must vote against the bill.

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### HON. JOHN GOODE, OF VIRGINIA.

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On the 25th of February, at the conclusion of the speech of Mr. JOYCE, of Vermont, in opposition to the pension bill, Mr. GOODE obtained fifteen minutes from the time of Mr. Davis, of N. C., in which to briefly reply to the bitterness of Mr. JOYCE. He understood that gentleman objected to the bill because some of its beneficiaries had served the Confederacy. "Will this cruel war never be over?" But even this ground slips from under the gentleman through the general amnesty proclamation of 1868 and the decision of the Supreme Court defining the meaning, force and effect of pardons. The war ceased in the field thirteen years ago. Will it never cease in these halls, in columns of the political press, and on the hustings? The Mexican veterans pay their taxes, bear their proportion of government burdens and are good citizens. If the country should ever again need their services, they would be found responding with the same alacrity that they did in 1846. Many of these men, by the vicissitudes of fortune, had been reduced to penury. Our country has been enlarged and greatly enriched by their valor, and as yet we have never given them a penny beyond their pay and bounty lands. No token of their bravery, no recognition of their patriotism, no insignia of honor, has ever been recorded in their favor on the annals of Congress. Two thousand millions of the precious metals have been taken from the bowels of the earth of that conquest. Untold

wealth of agriculture is harvested in each succeeding year from the limitless acres of this domain, and the whole commerce of the Indies awaits only the invitation of renewed prosperity to fall into the embraces of our people by way of our Mexican acquisitions. And yet we hear that we are too poor to add a paltry two million to our pension list as a slight token of recognition of the unselfish and patriotic services which brought us this great wealth. They had a right to this recognition. They had a right to expect it from the well-settled policy of our government, when they left home and families and periled health and life in the country's service. Our government is dependent upon our volunteer soldiery when involved in war. There is no other country on the globe whose citizens are so readily convertible in soldiers and *vice versa* when the exigency has passed away. We have all seen large armies leap forth at the bugle call to defend their country and quietly relapse into their original elements when their services were no longer needed. As a matter of mere policy, then, to say nothing of gratitude, it would be a wise and salutary measure to pass this bill and thereby to encourage our citizen soldiers to volunteer their services in times of public peril.

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### HON. P. C. HAYES, OF ILLINOIS.

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On the 12th of March, the Life-saving bill being under consideration, Mr. Hayes spoke at length in opposition to the pensions of the soldiers of the Indian and Mexican wars on the narrow ground that the passage of the proposed bill made no distinction between loyalty and treason. He thought the main object of the friends of the bill was to get, through its enactment into a law, the declaration from Congress that treason is not a crime. If this bill is passed, who shall dare to say that treason has not been made respectable? There was a hidden object under all the pretended sympathy of the other side of the House for the poor soldier. It was too patent to deceive him and his friends. The real motive was to secure, by a law of the nation, the recognition of the principle that the traitor shall be considered in every respect the equal of the patriot. But for this motive we should not have been called to vote on this bill at the present moment. The chief supporters of this bill care but little for the veteran soldiers compared with their desire for this legal declaration of the principle for which they have fought so long and so persistently. The superior vision of Mr. Hayes enabled him to see and unmask the hidden motives of the arch-inspirators in season to warn those loyal members, who were just as patriotic, though less suspicious or less astute than himself, and they would not now be hoodwinked into the support of this iniquity. He ignored pardons and acts removing disabilities as of no effect with him—"Once a traitor, always a traitor." The decisions of the Supreme Court are a mere "will-o'-the-wisp." A pardon may permit a traitor to exercise the franchise, may restore to him all political and property rights for the future on an equality with the loyalist, but gives him no legal status as to past contracts. These obligations of the government to its old soldiers were all blotted out, and can never properly be renewed by the pardon of the Executive, the decision of the Supreme Court, or the removal of disabilities by Congress, in accordance with the Fourteenth Amendment. He not only held that treason was a crime, but appeared to think it was a crime that no amount of pardon and amnesty could wipe out in an old soldier, however much it might cleanse all others. It may give seats to ex-rebels in this hall and in the Senate; we may even pass acts removing their disabilities purposely to allow them to take seats here after they have been chosen in defiance of these disabilities; but to repeal an unconstitutional act which debars an old soldier, pardoned though he has been, from drawing his pension—to this he never could consent.

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### HON. THOMAS TURNER, OF KENTUCKY.

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On the 29th of May, Mr. Turner, who served the Federal Government both in the Mexican war and in the war for the suppression of the late rebellion, devoted a few moments to an emphatic dissent from the views expressed by Messrs. JOYCE, of Vermont, and HAYES, of Illinois. He spoke of the chivalrous conduct

of the officers of King Alfonso's Army recently in Spain toward those who had preferred Don Carlos', when they had insisted that the latter, after having laid down their arms, should be restored again to their old rank and positions in the regular Army of the King, and lamented that the proverbially vindictive Spaniard should surpass the Union soldier of the North in true chivalry! "Let it not be said that the American people are less generous, or that they have less of genuine Christian charity" than the Spaniards! Let no one from political or personal motives keep alive the passions of the war, or by fanning the embers of sectional hatred for political or partisan effect subject our whole people to the charge of vindictive malignity. Brave Union soldiers will not approve such one-sided legislation, nor will they accept for themselves the benefits of an act whose provisions exclude one portion of their comrades from participation in them because of subsequent differences of opinion. He wished that the bitter memories of our civil war could be forever buried in oblivion, and that we could only remember the noble acts and gallant deeds of both armies. All were Americans even then, and now all were again citizens of the same American Union. We should now realize the importance of looking to the future instead of the past.

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## HON. C. H. BROGDEN, OF NORTH CAROLINA.

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Governor Brogden, of North Carolina, [Republican,] advocated the bill in an eloquent address to the Committee of the Whole, February 27, 1878. He passed in graphic review the principal brilliant exploits of soldiers in the Mexican War, and glanced at the stupendous acquisitions of territory as one of its results. He also paid a glowing tribute to the gallantry of some of the more prominent of the leading spirits, whose names are honorably enshrined in history, but whose spirits have gone to a higher life, where they will be certainly rewarded according to their deeds, and where they will be subject to no misconstruction of motives of action. Let us not forget these Mexican veterans who thirty years ago performed those deeds of gallantry which made our greatness of to-day possible. We have expended millions of treasure upon the development of the natural resources of these acquisitions with scarcely a moment's consideration, and let us now, as these old soldiers are fast disappearing from the field of active life, when many of them are old and decrepid, from the sufferings of those very Mexican campaigns, deal out our acknowledgments of their important services. Tardy, though it be, let it be done before it is too late for their acceptance. Let equal and impartial justice be done to all alike. Those who may have served in the rebellion or sympathized with it, were pardoned in the general amnesty of President Johnson in 1868, and were thus restored to all their original, political and property rights. Let there now, therefore, be no distinctions made in this bill! If pardon and amnesty means the blotting out of the offense, and restoring the record to its original pristine purity, let us not by any action of ours ten years later insert anything in this act to raise invidious distinctions or restore criminations or recriminations of the past. But, above all, let us not subject ourselves to the disgrace of selecting those old soldiers of the wars of 1812 and of Mexico, as the only victims of the late rebellion, as the only persons who by act of Congress are barred from the rights and privileges and immunities of citizenship supposed to be restored by a full and free pardon of past offenses.

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## SPEECH OF GOV. J. W. THROCKMORTON, OF TEXAS.

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On March 25, Gov. Throckmorton, of Texas, delivered his views upon our pension bill in a brief speech of remarkable power. He favored the granting of pensions, because in "free governments the safety of the State emphatically rests upon the patriotism of the citizen." In the earlier stages of the life of a nation, the patriotism of the patriarchs is equal to its protection and defense. So it has been in this country heretofore. In the wars of the Revolution and of 1812, the war with Mexico and our Indian wars, volunteers have joined our standards with all the ardor and alacrity of a frontiersman in defense of his cabin. But we have

reached a period in our national history when our action upon measures like the present derives its importance from its prospective rather than its immediate effects." The passage of this law will fix the "policy of the Government in dealing with the heroic men who may stand in its defense when danger threatens; a policy that shall give such expression to the public estimate of heroic service as will always supply a present and sufficient motive to the citizen for patriotic action upon every occasion of public peril." He elaborated the importance of the bill from this elevated standpoint, discarding all minor and sectional views as unworthy the occasion. He believed the estimated number of beneficiaries, and consequent annual tax upon the Treasury were exaggerated. He did not consider that due strength had been given to the great mortality among the Mexican veterans since the close of that war, while he also believed that too large a proportion of the survivors had been accorded to the South by the opponents of the bill. But he opposed any discrimination on account of participation in the late civil war as foreign to the genius of our institutions, and opposed to the policy of our Government. He held that our late civil war was an anomaly in such contests. While some might hold that rebellion to be technical treason to the Federal Government, yet the powers of that Government had never before been so well defined as to justify the opinion that there was no room for the honest belief in the supremacy of State Sovereignty over the citizen. The great majority of the men of the South believed their first allegiance due to their State, and they fought for its supremacy under its orders. The majority in the North, on the contrary, believed that the first allegiance was due to the Federal Government, that this principle was necessary to the unity and strength of the country, and they fought accordingly for the permanent establishment of that principle in the Government. This was all there was at issue. There was no question involved as to the superiority of Republican institutions or a Democratic form of government. The war over, and the question determined by the arbitrament of the sword, there was no attainant wrought which a general pardon could not cure. He deprecated crimination and recrimination of the past as irritating and exciting to the passions, when the judgment and reason only should be invoked. If the war involved only a dispute as to the powers claimed as belonging to the central government and not any treason to the country itself, why should the offensive epithets of rebel and traitor still be thrown up at the discomfited on every conceivable occasion. Those who could fight so bravely and desperately for their honest convictions and opinions are entitled to the respect of each other. Open questions have been finally settled. The relative powers of the general and local governments have been more clearly defined. Systems of labor have been elevated and harmonized. We are prepared for a stronger and more generous civilization, and a more rapid progress than ever heretofore. We know our resources and capabilities better than ever before, and if we shall only exercise the prudence and forbearance requisite to their proper utilization, we may soon challenge the world for strength, wealth and grandeur. The men of 1846, from all sections, stood firmly shoulder to shoulder for the whole country, and now let the whole country properly acknowledge those services without sectional discriminations.

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### HON. GOLDSMITH S. HEWITT, OF ALABAMA.

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Mr. Hewitt, in charge of our bill, on the first of April made a most eloquent and able speech in favor of the bill. He passed in review all the arguments that had been presented in opposition to the measure during the debate, paying particular attention to those of Messrs. Powers, of Maine, and Simnickson, of New Jersey. He said their cry was the same that had always been presented against pensions—that they were bad precedents—opened new doors, &c. It was raised in 1818, in 1832, and in 1871. He would give them the same answer given then. It embraced no new principles; it established no new precedents; it opened no new door. The principle was established in 1818, extended in 1832, confirmed in 1871, and reaffirmed by the present Congress. The system was not only adopted many years since, but there was no tax which the people paid with greater pleasure. The act of 1818, pensioned soldiers averaging sixty; the Black Hawk war was 46 years ago, and its surviving soldiers average 65 years, while the Mexican war was 31 years ago, and its soldiers now living average 56. So that the aggregate average of soldiers covered by this bill will be over sixty-five years. If the Revolutionary

soldiers had been earlier pensioned they would have simply taxed themselves to pay their own pensions, for nearly all the able-bodied men in the country were in that war; but by waiting 35 years the succeeding generations who were reaping the benefits of the war bore the burden of the tax. But the Mexican war was on a foreign soil, and was participated in by a small proportion only of the whole military force in the country. The acquisition of territory and treasure were large, and all alike participated in these benefits. So there is no analogy between these pensioners and those of the Revolution on this ground. There is no reason why the Mexican veterans should wait longer before those who staid at home and shunned the privations of this foreign war should tender their acknowledgment for this service. A few of our citizens bore all the perils of the Mexican war for the good of the whole world, and the whole world has been largely benefited by the developments of treasure which have resulted from it. Mr. Hewitt eloquently repudiated the idea of a "pauper pension-roll," as suggested by gentlemen from Maine and New Jersey, and quoted from FRELINGHUYSEN, WEBSTER, FOOT, and others, to show that formerly people of the same States denounced such humiliation of old soldiers. The pension was a *gratuity* in acknowledgment of patriotic acts voluntarily performed long before, and was to be considered as a sort of annual incense offered by a grateful people as a sacrifice upon the altar of patriotism.

Mr. Hewitt carefully and at length reviewed the figures and estimates as to number, and triumphantly vindicated the correctness of the report of the committee. He also showed conclusively that the general amnesty and pardon blotted out the offense, pardoned and restored to the offender all political and property rights, so that the repeal of section 4,716 was fully required in justice to amnestied pensioners who had been stricken from the rolls. He uttered a most just and scathing criticism upon the conduct of the Commissioner of Pensions for furnishing to members of Congress false and deceptive information to aid in defeating this bill. Mr. Hewitt's speech was a most exhaustive and conclusive defense of the bill, and exposition of the justice and fairness of its provisions as well as a complete refutation of the arguments and allegations made against it by its opponents.

In conclusion he said: "Public opinion has decided in favor of this measure, and you cannot, you *dare* not resist it. The people, before whose will we should all bow, demand the measure shall pass. Can any man doubt the fact? Look at the instructions of State legislatures: Pennsylvania, Ohio, Illinois, Indiana, Texas, Wisconsin, North Carolina, Minnesota, California, Virginia, Maryland, Alabama, Louisiana, Mississippi, Oregon, Nevada, Tennessee, and Kentucky have all requested their representatives to vote for this measure. There is no mistake in this; it speaks but the voice of the people and the Representative who fails to heed it will be called before the bar of public opinion, when he returns to his constituents, to give a strict account of his refusal to obey their will. Can you refuse the request of these twelve thousand old crippled soldiers? If you do, I shall feel humbled for my country."

## REVIEW OF THE SPEECHES.

Mr. Burchard [Rep.] of Illinois, opposed the bill because of the "hard times," mainly. Mr. Martin I. Townsend [Rep.] of New York, would have liked to favor the bill, because Gen. John E. Wool was a fellow-townsman of his, and he greatly admired Gen. Wool, but he was restrained from so doing by the impossibility of the resources of the country being equal to the emergency. The bill would cost seven millions annually, he thought. Mr. McGowan, of Michigan, [Rep.] also endorsed Mr. Powers' estimate of the number of survivors, and opposed the idea that a soldier has a vested right in a pension. The synopsis prepared of the above speeches has been crowded out.

In reviewing the foregoing speeches, the entire arguments against the passage of the bill can be summed up in three words:—*Ingratitude*—*SUSPICION*—*POVERTY*. They consist of *ingratitude* on the part of the nation to the few brave and patriotic spirits who promptly rushed to its defence, and "conquered a peace" at the same moment that they acquired a territory equal in extent and wealth to an empire:—of *suspicion*, that the few of those surviving soldiers, who may become beneficiaries,

who afterwards served in the Confederate army, are not now sufficiently loyal to be entituled with eight dollars per month in the shape of a pension; and of the *poverty* of a great nation of fifty millions of people who, having had thousands of millions added to their wealth by the patriotic ardor of a handful of their fellows, thirty-one years ago, are now *too poor* to pay a *per capita* tax of four cents per annum in recognition of such valuable services.

Is not this a charming picture? Is it not an edifying illustration of the gratitude of Republics? But let us not do injustice to Congress! There were really but two or three gentlemen who based their opposition to our bill on the ground of poverty, and we know that their people at home will not sustain them upon any such grounds. Four cents *per capita* tax on fifty millions of population will yield two millions, and the best estimates of the cost of this bill are less than one-and-a-half millions annually at the first, which sum will constantly be decreased by deaths. The idea that the country will claim that it is *too poor* to stand this is preposterous.

The plea that a few ex-Confederates will be benefitted, is in contravention to all reason and practice in other matters. Ex-Confederates have been fully restored to their political and property rights, with but a few exceptions, and those exceptions are especially debarred in terms from the benefits to be conferred by this bill. Why should a distinction be made here to the prejudice of the old soldier? Why discriminate against the men, now far past the meridian of life, who thirty-two years ago sprang into the breach in defence of the nation's honor; carried their lives in their hands to tropical and inhospitable climes, when all other participants in the late rebellion, of all classes, conditions, and ages, are in constant and continuous receipt of the pay and emoluments of place from the common treasury? There is no analogy between these soldiers and those who simply served in the war for the Union. This proposed pension is in no sense a discrimination against the Union soldier; for the time has not arrived yet to discuss the question of gratuitous pensions to the soldiers of the civil war. When that time comes, no doubt the next generation will settle it wisely. Meanwhile, is it not time that we should cease to twit each other with being and having been "Johnnies" and "Yanks" in Congress and in the press, if we ever intend to become a great, united and harmonious country? Should we not stop legislating for sections and classes and co-operate in making laws for the good of the whole? Should we not seek to impute the best of motives to each and all for their action in that spirit of charity which claims purity for self-conduct? What kind of spirit must possess and actuate those men who would debar the old soldier, *and only him*, from participation in civil rights because of sympathy with the rebellion? How many votes will such a stand gain for them in their efforts for re-election? Not one!

In regard to the ingratitude of those who oppose this bill because the time has not yet arrived for gratuitous pensions to soldiers in the Mexican war, but little need be said. Those who used such an argument are no doubt heartily ashamed of it before now. It was triumphantly confuted by several of the advocates of the measure. The second generation of successors to those who fought the Mexican war now occupy the field of action, and they are willing to bear their share of expenses attaching to the acquisition of the vast golden empire of the Pacific Coast. They do not even ask "further time." They see no real analogy between this bill and those pensioning the soldiers of the revolution and the war of 1812, because in the latter wars the whole available force of the country was drawn forth, and pensions for them would have been simply taxing one's self to pension one's self; hence the policy and advantage of waiting until two or three new generations of tax-payers could participate in the burdens. But in the Mexican war, only a fraction of a tithe of the available volunteer force of the country was engaged, and it was no more than proper that those who remained at home should pay the expenses immediately growing out of the war; but that their children and children's children, who are reaping the immense benefits accruing from the conquests of that war, should also willingly bear the additional burdens appertaining to the proposed substantial recognition of those patriotic services. In looking the whole subject over, it is difficult to see any good substantial ground for any opposition to this bill, and it is believed that a full and square vote in either House of Congress will result in its triumphant passage. The true American regards the pension law as a just tribute to patriotic valor, and views it as the French people did the CORDON OF THE LEGION OF HONOR, and Hewitt, of Alabama, deserves the thanks of every pensioner in spurning the insinuation of Powers and Sinnickson that it is a pauper roll of dependents.

## THE PRESENT OUTLOOK—FAVORABLE PROSPECT FOR NEXT WINTER.

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The Secretary invites the attention of comrades to the petition presented to Congress during last session, printed on page 10, and to the list of bills presented by members of Congress, (page 14) showing the large number of influential friends who have espoused our cause, and also to the admirable speeches delivered in favor of the bill submitted by the House committee briefly epitomized on page 31 *et seq.* On the 17th of January last, Hon. G. W. Hewitt submitted on behalf of the committee an elaborate report covering our prayer, which now stands at the head of the calendar, and will probably be disposed of with some amendments as soon as the House goes into Committee of the whole. Mr. Hewitt informed the secretary, during the last hours of the session, that if he pressed the question at that time to a vote, it might pass the House, but could not pass the Senate before adjournment; the friends of the bill in the House advised, therefore, postponement until next winter, when it will doubtless pass the House by a much larger majority than it would have received before the Congressional elections take place this fall. The opposition has been of a partisan character, and it is confidently hoped that all sectional feelings will disappear when the question comes up next winter on its merits. In the Senate, we feel confident the bill coming from the House will be favorably considered. It will be seen elsewhere in the proceedings that twenty States have instructed their Senators to vote for the proposed pension by resolutions of their respective legislatures, and Senator Voorhees, of Indiana, to whom our petition has been referred in the Senate Pension Committee, has expressed his belief that our bill will be reported by a majority of that committee, and will probably pass the Senate.

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### PASSAGE OF PENSION BILL OF WAR OF 1812.

In the Senate, February 20th, the bill amending the act pensioning the soldiers of 1812 so as to include "all who served in that war a period of fourteen days, or who were in any engagement, was passed with a provision also restoring those who had been stricken from the rolls for participating in the rebellion excepting only that they should not be paid for the time in which their names remained off the rolls. It will be seen that all the principles contended for in our bill are conceded in this act pensioning the soldiers of 1812. Its passage was opposed by only eight recorded Nays.

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**THE PENNSYLVANIA FIASCO.**—The legislature of Pennsylvania last winter passed a resolution instructing their Senators and requesting their representatives in Congress to vote for our pension bill; but notwithstanding this, 15 out of 17 Republican representatives from that State voted against taking the bill up. The State Legislature thereupon passed a pension bill of \$8 a month for all the survivors who went to Mexico from that State; but Gov. Hartman vetoed the bill, and the Pennsylvania survivors will have to await the action of Congress.

## PROSPECTUS

OF A

# History of the Mexican War

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IT IS WELL UNDERSTOOD, THAT THE PRIMARY OBJECT HAD IN VIEW IN ORGANIZING the "National Association of Veterans of the Mexican War," was to obtain from Congress a recognition of the fact, that the men who responded to the call of the Chief Magistrate in 1846, and risked life and health in the public service, were entitled to the honor to be placed, in their declining years on the pension rolls of the country, on a footing with the most favored veterans of other wars in which the nation has been embroiled.

When this object was first announced, April 15, 1872, in a circular emanating from the Organizing Committee in this city, appealing to the fraternal feelings of the comparatively few remaining veterans to lay aside their political differences and unite in this laudable object; another solemn purpose was avowed in connection with it, namely, "To rescue from oblivion the names and fame of our fallen comrades, whose lives were sacrificed during the Mexican war," the glorious results of which we had been spared to see realized to some extent.

While all who have thus far joined in the movement have cheerfully devoted their services or contributions to the first-named object, as an act of justice and humanity to old comrades-in-arms who sadly need a helping hand, the question arises, "Would it not in a measure detract from the merits of the cause if we neglect to pay the mournful debt we owe to those who fell by our sides in performance of duty on the field of battle?" Every generous spirit will respond affirmatively to such inquiry.

True, some degree of satisfaction will be derived from reading the correspondence herein with the War Department, in regard to the erection of a monument at the Capital of the nation, in commemoration of our long neglected brothers whose mortal remains have occupied unmarked graves in a foreign soil for more than a quarter of a century. The interest manifested by the Government in this respect indicates that our agitation of the subject has not been barren of beneficial results, and encourages a hope of better things in the future.

But perhaps the most fitting tribute the Association can offer to their comrades passed away and their descendants, would be to aid in the publication of a **COMPREHENSIVE NARRATIVE OF THE MEXICAN WAR**, connected with a period which marks a most glorious epoch in the first century of our country's history, which will awaken inquiry and impress the importance of those events on the rising and future generations of American citizens. Every man who served therein has an individual interest in preserving and perpetuating the glorious traditions and historical facts of the Mexican war, and however humble the capacity in which he may have served, if his duties were faithfully discharged, he can leave a name to his children entitled to be honored by his countrymen while the nation exists.

In fulfillment of his design heretofore announced as stated, the First Secretary deems it a duty incumbent upon the position assigned him by the distinguished delegates to our two last National Conventions, to publish under his immediate supervision and control, a **HISTORY OF THE MEXICAN WAR**, comprising in regular order, *an impartial review of its causes, derived from official sources exclusively; a comprehensive narrative of the several campaigns and expeditions, military and naval, with their lists of killed and wounded; a treatise on the results of the war, as regards its effects upon the military renown and material prosperity of the country* (some idea of this last thesis is set forth in the Minority Report of the Committee of Pensions, on pages 15 and 16 of this pamphlet). An APPENDIX will contain an *authentic list of the officers engaged in the war*, Regular and Volunteer, to be verified by the War Department, with such special marks of distinction as were conferred upon them for gallant and meritorious conduct in the Mexican war. It is also designed to publish a *list of the survivors*, (so far as they can be obtained by the First Secretary) with the corps to which they were attached.

Such a work as is here contemplated has never been prepared, and probably never would have been without the preliminary agitation out of which our Association was formed and the residence of so many survivors ascertained, which now renders the proposition feasible, if a generous co-operation of comrades can be enlisted in the undertaking. But the compilation of the work, and its distribution among the multitude of libraries throughout the land, involves much labor and great pecuniary expense—more, perhaps, than any of the great publishing houses of the country would like to invest in the enterprise.

A plan to cover the expense, however, suggests itself, by which the Secretary will be enabled to accomplish the work devolving upon him in the interest of our common cause, and he respectfully solicits the business of *prosecuting the claims of the survivors before the Department of the Interior* when our bill becomes a law by act of Congress. The fee in similar cases is fixed by law at ten dollars in the absence of a contract, and if the survivors extend their patronage to the undersigned, the lowest fee will enable him to carry out this project, leaving a surplus to perpetuate the organization for further benefits in the future. He hopes, at least, that said applicants for this patronage of the members will hold out as favorable inducements. He respectfully suggests, also, that each survivor desiring the success of the enterprise will *solicit subscribers to the book* among his friends and neighbors outside of the organization and forward their names and address to the Secretary; an edition to supply the surviving veterans only would hardly warrant the undertaking. As an apology for his boldness in asking these favors, he undersigned begs leave to remind his comrades that his services in the cause from its inception have been hitherto given *without compensation* other than that which an earnest enthusiast derives from doing what he conceives to be a good work in behalf of the brave comrade in his youth.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ALEXANDER M. KENADAY.

First Secretary N. A. V. M. W., Lock Box 37, Washington, D. C.





*Dear out, answer and return*

Town.

County.

State.

187

*To A. M. KENADAY, First Secretary, &c.,  
Lock Box 37, Washington, D. C.*

*SIR: You are authorized to enroll my name in the National Register,  
and as an applicant for a pension under the law asked for by the National  
Convention of Veterans of the Mexican War, held in Washington, D. C.,  
January, 1874.*

*My full name is*

*Post Office Address*

*Age*                   *Born at*

*Served in Co.*                   *Capt.*

*Regiment of*                   *Commanded by*

*Enlisted at*                   *month of*                   *184*

*Discharged at*                   *month of*                   *184*

*Received land warrant for*                   *acres.*

*Enclosed find*                   *donation for copy of Proceedings of National  
Convention, postage, &c.*

*Signature,*

*Comrades are requested to notify me of any change of residence to insure  
correct transmission of information in regard to the MEDALION BADGE, when  
ready, and other correspondence.*                   *[A. M. K.]*





# PROSPECTUS

OF A

# History of the Mexican War

IT IS WELL UNDERSTOOD, THAT THE PRIMARY OBJECT HAD IN VIEW IN ORGANIZING the "National Association of Veterans of the Mexican War," was to obtain from Congress a recognition of the fact, that the men who responded to the call of the Chief Magistrate in 1846, and risked life and health in the public service, were entitled to the honor to be placed in their declining years on the pension rolls of the country, on a footing with the most favored veterans of other wars in which the nation has been embroiled.

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While all who have thus far joined in the movement have cheerfully devoted their services or contributions to the first-named object, as an act of justice and humanity to old comrades-in-arms who sadly need a helping hand, the question arises "Would it not in a measure detract from the merits of the case if we neglect to pay the mournful debt we owe to those who fell by our sides in performance of duty on the field of battle?" Every generous spirit will respond affirmatively to such inquiry.

True, some degree of satisfaction will be derived from reading the correspondence herein with the War Department, in regard to the erection of a monument at the Capital of the nation, in commemoration of our long neglected brothers whose mortal remains have occupied unmarked graves in a foreign soil for more than a quarter of a century. The interest manifested by the Government in this respect indicates that our agitation of the subject has not been barren of beneficial results, and encourages a hope of better things in the future.

But perhaps the most fitting tribute the Association can offer to their comrades passed away and their descendants, would be to aid in the publication of a **COMPREHENSIVE NARRATIVE OF ALL THE FACTS** connected with a period which marks a most glorious epoch in the first century of our country's history, which will awaken inquiry and impress the importance of those events on the rising and future generations of American citizens. Every man who served therein has an individual interest in preserving and perpetuating the glorious traditions and historical facts of the Mexican war, and however humble the capacity in which he may have served, if his duties were faithfully discharged, he can leave a name to his children entitled to be honored by his countrymen while the nation exists.

In fulfilment of his design heretofore announced as stated, the First Secretary deems it a duty incumbent upon the position assigned him by the distinguished delegates to our two last National Conventions, to publish under his immediate supervision and control, a **HISTORY OF THE MEXICAN WAR**, comprising in regular order, an *impartial review of its causes*, (derived from official sources exclusively;) a comprehensive *narrative of the several campaigns and expeditions, military and naval*, with their *lists of killed and wounded*; a *treatise on the results of the war*, as regards its effects upon the military renown and material prosperity of the country (some idea of this last thesis is set forth in the Minority Report of the Committee of Pensions, on pages 15 and 16 of this pamphlet.) An APPENDIX will contain an *authentic list of the officers engaged in the war*, Regular and Volunteer, to be verified by the War Department, with such special marks of distinction as were conferred upon them for gallant and meritorious conduct in the Mexican war. It is also designed to publish a *list of the survivors*, (so far as they can be obtained by the First Secretary) with the corps to which they were attached.

Such a work as is here contemplated has never been prepared, and probably never would have been without the preliminary agitation out of which our Association was formed and the residence of so many survivors ascertained, which now renders the proposition feasible, if a generous co-operation of comrades can be enlisted in the undertaking. But the compilation of the work, and its distribution among the multitude of libraries throughout the land, involves much labor and great pecuniary expense—more, perhaps, than any of the great publishing houses of the country would like to invest in the enterprise.

A plan to cover the expense, however, suggests itself, by which the Secretary will be enabled to accomplish the work devolving upon him in the interest of our common cause, and he respectfully solicits the business of *prosecuting the claims of the survivors before the Department of the Interior* when our bill becomes a law by act of Congress. The fee in similar cases is fixed by law at ten dollars in the absence of a contract, and if the survivors extend their patronage to the undersigned, the lowest fee will enable him to carry out this project, leaving a surplus to perpetuate the organization for further benefits in the future. He hopes, at least, that rival applicants for this patronage of the members will hold out as favorable inducements. He respectfully suggests, also, that each survivor desiring the success of the enterprise will *solicit subscribers to the book* among his friends and neighbors outside of the organization and forward their names and address to the Secretary; an edition to supply the surviving veterans only would hardly warrant the undertaking. As an apology for his boldness in asking these favors, the undersigned begs leave to remind his comrades that his services in the cause from its incipiency have been hitherto given *without compensation* other than that which an earnest enthusiast derives from doing what he conceives to be a good work in behalf of the brave companions of his youth.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant.

O  
ALEXANDER M. KENADAY.

First Secretary N. A. V. M. W., Lock Box 37, Washington, D. C.

## TRICKS OF CLAIM HUNTERS.

It has been reported to Headquarters that claim agents in some parts of the country have advertised the Mexican war pension bill as having already passed, and are having applications sworn to by claimants in anticipation of the bill becoming a law. Of course every intelligent man will know that a claim prepared before the law is passed, and sustained by the anti-dated oath of the claimant, will come under the statute against "fraudulent claims," which works a forfeiture of the claim.

Members should be careful to select an attorney in whom they can repose confidence for ability and integrity, because of the following rule of the Pension Office, viz.:

"The substitution by a claimant of an attorney for one already empowered and recognized by this office *will not be permitted*, unless with the consent of the attorney of record or unless a good and sufficient reason be given for such substitution."

It has frequently occurred that members of the Association have requested the Secretary to aid attorneys who have filed their claims for invalid pensions and bounty lands, which he was compelled to decline on account of this rule of the office, which only recognizes the attorney filing the claim as having any right to be heard.

When our bill becomes a law, every member will be advised from this office how to proceed to obtain his pension, and he can then elect who shall prosecute his claim. The fee is regulated by law, fixed at \$10, and is paid to the attorney by the Pension Bureau, and deducted from the first quarterly payment of the pension.

THE FINANCE COMMITTEE, consisting of Maj. Gen. S. P. Heintzelman, Capt. S. V. Niles and M. D. Montis, Esq., issued a circular on the 25th of June, calling upon the State officers to subscribe for copies of the Proceedings, in accordance with the plan of assessment adopted by the Association on page 31. The whole amount of cash received, however, up to date of going to press only amounts to \$40. The Secretary has faith, however, that considerate members will sustain him, as heretofore, in his efforts to fulfill his duties to the Association. A very small donation from each recipient of the book will defray the expenses of printing and postage, and there being no "initiation fee" or "yearly dues," this appears to be the only method of sustaining the organization.

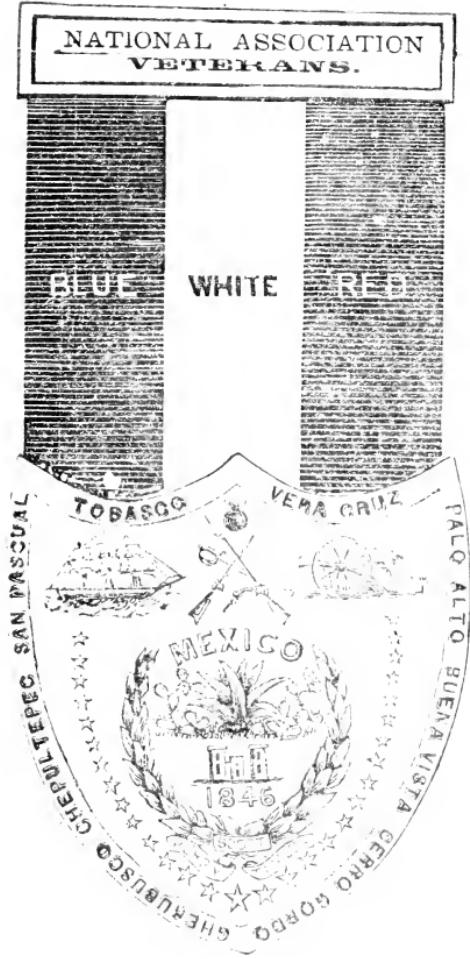
## How to Cleanse Your Medal and Preserve its Brillancy.

If your medal becomes badly discolored, wash first with alcohol; then mix a solution of one-fourth water to three-fourths sulphuric acid (commonly called oil of vitriol); wash this solution off with cold water. To preserve the brillancy of the medal and prevent rust, make a solution of four-fifths of rectified spirit of turpentine and one-fifth of oil varnish—rub the mixture over the metal with a sponge.

BADGE RIBBON.—The Committee have on hand a surplus quantity of three-color ribbon which they would like to utilize. Members so situated that they cannot renew their badge-ribbons at the stores where they reside, can have a new piece of the proper length forwarded by mail if they enclose three postage stamps (or 10 cent stamp) to the Secretary, Lock Box 37, Washington, D. C. The large amount of correspondence required of the Secretary necessitates this method of covering the expense involved.

MEDALS ELECTRO-PLATED IN GOLD.—Many members have written to the Secretary inquiring the cost of electro-plating their medals in gold. The work can be done here in the best style of the art, and returned to the owners without rebose at *two dollars each*. The medal can be sent by mail, it wrapped securely in paper, and tied with a string, (but not sealed or pasted,) at a cost of three cents. Address to Secretary, Lock Box 37.

## Gold and Silver Medals



### Description of Badge.

A modified American Shield. The outer rim raised from the general surface, and having thereon the names of battles of the Mexican War, in the order and selection as given in the design. The letters to be block.

1 Left upper corner, a man-of-war, as given in the design: Navy.

2 Apex of centre, a bursting bomb: Ordnance.

3 Centre group of arms: Rifle—volunteer element; musket, sabre and pistol—infantry and cavalry.

4 Right upper corner, a field piece: Artillery.

5 Directly under group of arms the word "MEXICO" in block.

6 Thereunder a Maguey plant surrounded by cactus, emblematic of Mexico.

7 Thereunder a Castle: Engineers.

8 Thereunder the figures "1846;" Date of war.

9, 6, 7 and 8 are surrounded by laurel wreath as in design banded below with three folds, bearing on the same the names as given in design.

10 Surrounding the wreath, arranged, as given in design, twenty-nine five-pointed stars. Number of States at date of war.



### In Miniature Size.

A large number of members have expressed a desire to have a copy of the *Regulation Medal* in miniature size, in GOLD or SILVER, which can be worn on all occasions, either as a WATCH CHARM or VEST PIN—thus affording the wearer a means of recognition by comrades when they meet each other in the daily walks of life, as is customary in kindred societies. At our last annual meeting a resolution was unanimously adopted, (not requested by the Badge Committee, however,) authorizing the medal to be worn by members of the National Association in *any size or metal*, conformable in all other respects to the design adopted as the insignia of membership, (which design has been patented under the laws of the United States, and any infringement will be prosecuted.) Accordingly, the Secretary has made arrangements to furnish medals in GOLD or SILVER after the above pattern, which will be sent to comrades on the usual application containing a statement of his services in Mexico (name of Captain, Colonel and Regt., etc.; when and where enlisted and discharged, etc.,) at the following rates which include cost of engraving, postage on registered letters, clerical services, &c., &c., to wit:

**GOLD MEDAL** with an adjustable pin, and a ring for watch charm..... \$7.00

**SILVER MEDAL** " 3.50

#### CLUB RATES:

• Ten or more GOLD medals sent in one package to *one address* at \$6.80 each. Ten SILVER do. at \$3 each.

All applications must be accompanied by a postal-money order. Where currency is sent it should be in a registered letter, addressed to—

ALEX. M. KENADAY, SEC. &c.,  
Lock Box 37, Washington, D. C.

## ROUGH ON THE CLAIM AGENTS.

Heretofore attorneys have had a pretty sure thing in collecting their fees from pensioners when their claims were allowed, the Pension Agent being directed by law to deduct the attorney's fee from the first payment. The Commissioner of Pensions, however, persuaded Congress at the late session to repeal that provision of law, and hereafter attorneys have no security for their fees but the good faith of the claimant.

While it is thought the law will work hardship to the poor soldiers in most cases, it will probably have the effect to weed out of the profession a gang of unprincipled sharpers, who resort to lying and disreputable means to obtain the names of claimants with a view to "reaping where they have not sown." One of the heaviest tasks in the way of correspondence imposed upon the Secretary is in replying to false reports sent to comrades like the following:

ANDY C TMAN, *Lewistown, Illinois.*

Dear Sir—A bill has just passed (June 25) giving *all* Mexican soldiers eight dollars per month let me me git it for you give reg't & co. when & where inlisted how long serve captain name no charge unless I sucede giv captains name. Reply.

T. S. LOUGHRY.

This style of correspondence has been referred to the Secretary time and again for a reply to the false reports. As some enterprising agents have purchased surreptitiously lists of names collected by the secretary, comrades are cautioned to receive all reports from outsiders with some allowance. It will be several weeks after the passage of the bill before any action can be taken on claims filed, and members will be promptly advised from headquarters how to proceed to obtain their rights.



ALEXANDER M. KENADAY,  
**U. S. CLAIMS ATTORNEY,**

525 Sixth Street, N. W., Washington, D. C.,

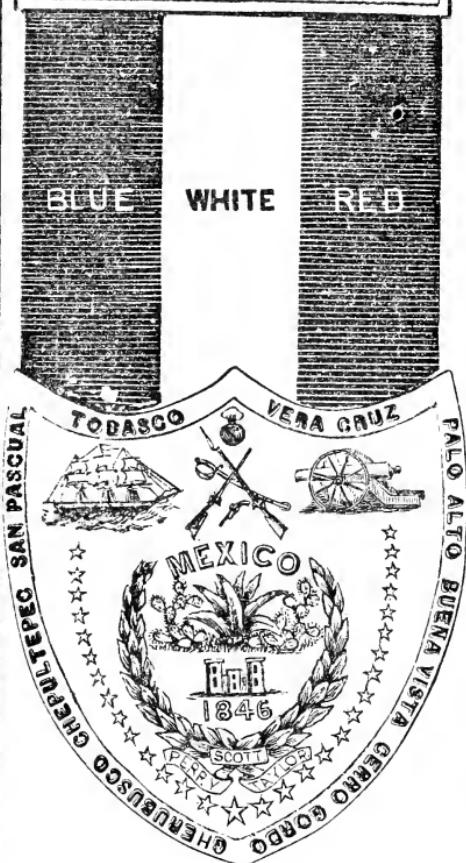
RESPECTFULLY announces that he has commenced the business of

ATTORNEY FOR THE PROSECUTION OF CLAIMS IN ALL THE DEPART-  
MENTS OF THE GOVERNMENT AND BEFORE THE  
COMMITTEES OF CONGRESS.

Having had six years' experience in one of the Departments of the Government as an EXAMINER OF CLAIMS, (from which he resigned in 1874 on account of increased duties growing out of his position as Secretary of the Mexican War Veterans,) he is enabled to bring to bear in his present vocation a knowledge and familiarity with the details of the business of a CLAIM AGENT that will render him useful to those who may do him the honor to entrust their business to his management. Through his official connection with the members of the National Association from the very incipiency of the organization of Mexican War Veterans he has prepared complete lists of comrades and their residences, arranged by States, regiments, &c., which will enable him to be of *valuable assistance* in the presentation of SOLDIERS' AND SAILORS' CLAIMS FOR BOUNTY, PENSIONS, EXTRA PAY, QUARTER-MASTERS' STORES, and all classes of accounts against the Government. He respectfully solicits a share of patronage from his comrades and their friends, which will be faithfully attended to.

Address,                    A. M. KENADAY, *P. O. Lock Box 37, Washington, D. C.*

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION  
VETERANS.



**Description of Badge.**

A modified American Shield. The outer rim raised from the general surface, and having thereon the names of battles of the Mexican War, in the order and selection as given in the design. The letters to be block.

1. Left upper corner, a man-of-war, as given in the design: Navy.

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3. Centre group of arms: Rifle—volunteer element; musket, sabre and pistol—infantry and cavalry.

4. Right upper corner, a field piece: Artillery.

5. Directly under group of arms the word "MEXICO" in block.

6. Thereunder a Maguey plant surrounded by cactus, emblematic of Mexico.

7. Thereunder a Castle: Engineers.

8. Thereunder the figures "1846:" Date of war.

9. 5, 6, 7 and 8 are surrounded by laurel wreath as in design, banded below with three folds, bearing on the same the names as given in design.

10. Surrounding the wreath, arranged, as given in design, twenty-nine five-pointed stars: Number of States at date of war.

The charge for engraving, mounting, clerical labor, postage, etc., of the above is TWO DOLLARS. (postal money order or registered letter,) to be accompanied by a full statement of service in Mexico, addressed to A. M. KENADAY, Sec'y., &c., Lock Box 37, Washington, D. C.

**Gold and Silver Medals**



**In Miniature Size.**

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**BRONZE MEDAL BADGE**.. \$2.00

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